

County Borough of Eastbourne.



ANNUAL REPORT

FOR 1938 ON THE

Health of Eastbourne

Vital Statistics, Sanitary Work, &c.

W. G. WILLOUGHBY, M.D., Lond.,

M.D. Lond. in Medicine and M.D. Lond. in State Medicine ;
M.R.C.S. Eng. ; L.R.C.P. Lond. ;
Diplomate in Public Health of Cambridge University ;
Hon. Fellow of the Royal Academy of Medicine, Ireland.
Major R.A.M.C. (T.) Ret.

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Table of Contents.

	PAGE
COMMITTEE AND STAFF	iv.
GENERAL SUMMARY	vii.
INTRODUCTION	viii.
NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS	1
PHYSICAL FEATURES, GEOLOGY, ETC.	1
METEOROLOGY	2
POPULATION	7
EXTENSION OF THE BOROUGH	8
VITAL STATISTICS	11
MARRIAGES	12
BIRTHS	12
DEATHS	13
ZYMOTIC DEATHS	17
MATERNAL MORTALITY	17
CANCER DEATHS	20
INFANT MORTALITY	23
INSTITUTION DEATHS	15
HEALTH SERVICES	25
HOSPITALS	25
CLINICS	26
OFFICERS	27
AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS	35
MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE	37
MATERNITY HOME	44
INFECTIOUS DISEASES	58
DISINFECTION	69
LABORATORY WORK	64
ISOLATION HOSPITAL	66
VACCINATION	70
VENEREAL DISEASE	71
PUBLIC ASSISTANCE	77
ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL	78
INSTITUTIONAL TREATMENT	89
COTTAGE HOMES	55
TUBERCULOSIS	90
NOTIFICATIONS	91
DEATHS	97
INSTITUTIONS	105
GILDREDGE HOSPITAL	102
DISPENSARY	107
EXTRA NOURISHMENT	109
GENERAL PARTICULARS	111
SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES	114
WATER SUPPLY	114
SEWERAGE, ETC.	116
SCAVENGING	117

TABLE OF CONTENTS —Continued.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES —Continued.

SANITARY INSPECTION	..	..	..	..	117
SLAUGHTER HOUSES, ETC.	..	..	..	..	119
BATHS	..	..	..	..	126
LOCAL AND ADOPTIVE ACTS	..	..	..	..	29
CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL WORK	..	..	..	..	127
RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT	..	..	..	..	128
FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, ETC.	..	..	..	..	123
SHOPS	..	..	..	..	125
FOOD	..	..	..	..	129
MILK SUPPLY	..	..	..	..	129
MEAT INSPECTION	..	..	..	..	134
FOOD AND DRUGS ADULTERATION ACT	..	..	..	..	138
LEGAL PROCEEDINGS	..	..	..	..	140
FERTILIZERS AND FEEDING STUFFS ACT, 1906	..	..	..	..	140
HOUSING	..	..	..	..	141
BLIND PERSONS	..	..	..	..	161
DEAFNESS AND THE DEAF AND DUMB	..	..	..	..	165
MENTAL DEFICIENCY	..	..	..	..	166

SANITARY AND PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1938.

The MAYOR (Mr. Alderman J. WHEELER, J.P.)

*Mr. Alderman ALCE (*Chairman*).

*Alderman Miss HUDSON, J.P. (*Deputy-Chairman*).

Mr. Alderman AVARD.

Mr. Councillor TOMSETT.

*Mr. Alderman MARTIN.

Mr. Councillor VENESS.

Mr. Councillor BASS, J.P.

*Mr. Councillor WALTON.

**Members of the Hospitals and Tuberculosis Sub-Committee.*

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SUB-COMMITTEE.

Alderman Miss HUDSON, J.P. (*Chairman*).

Mr. Alderman ALCE.

Mr. Alderman MARTIN.

Mr. Councillor BASS, J.P.

Mr. Councillor TOMSETT.

Mr. Councillor WALTON.

Co-opted Members :

Dr. R. C. MACQUEEN.

Mrs. READE.

Mrs. STANBRIDGE (*Deputy-Chairman*).

STAFF.

Public Health Department.

Medical Officer of Health and Chief Tuberculosis Officer :

W. G. WILLOUGHBY, M.D. Lond., D.P.H., M.R.C.S., etc.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health :

JOHN FENTON, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Joint Clinical Tuberculosis Officer :

*D. G. CHURCHER, M.D., F.R.C.S.

Medical Officer, V.D. Centre and Pathology :

*A. G. SHERA, M.A., M.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Borough Analyst : *Dr. S. ALLINSON WOODHEAD, F.I.C., Lewes.

Veterinary Officer : *Mr. T. G. CHAMBERLAIN, M.R.C.V.S.

Sanitary Inspectors :

J. H. OLLETT, Cert. R.S.I., R.P.C. (Senior).

A. LINDFIELD, Cert. R.S.I. (also Housing Inspector).

F. T. RIPPIN, Cert. R.S.I.

L. J. SHEPHERD, Cert. R.S.I.

G. N. RICHARDS, Cert. R.S.I.

The above Sanitary Inspectors are all qualified Inspectors of Meat and other Foods.

Meat Inspector (Part-time for Rural District) :

*M. F. WARMAN (till 31st March, 1938).

Health Visitors :

Miss R. CLARK (1909), Cert. R.S.I., Cert. C.M.B. (Superintendent).
 Miss I. SIMMONDS (1918), Cert. C.M.B.
 Miss L. CURTIS (1923), Cert. C.M.B.
 Miss O. MACK (1929), Cert. C.M.B.
 Miss E. WARD (1930), Cert. C.M.B.
 Miss P. NEWTON (1937), Cert. C.M.B. (From 6.9.37).

Clerks :

H. T. HOUNSOM (Chief Clerk).	R. A. WARBOYS.
A. H. HOOKHAM, F.R. Met. Soc.	E. R. R. MENGHAM.
W. L. PECK.	Miss M. P. CUNNINGTON.
C. A. HEMSLEY.	Miss J. M. LINTON.

Home Help : Mrs. BARKER.

Disinfecter, etc. : E. J. KNIGHT.

BOROUGH INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.

Medical Officer : THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Matron : Miss D. SANDY.

GILDREDGE TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITAL.

Administrative Medical Officer : THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Clinical Medical Officer : *D. G. CHURCHER, M.D., F.R.C.S.

Matron : Miss A. STRUGNELL.

MUNICIPAL MATERNITY HOME.

Administrative Medical Officer : THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Consulting Gynaecologist : *A. H. CROOK, M.A., M.Ch. M.B., F.R.C.S.

Matron : Miss C. B. MACINTOSH.

Lecturer to Pupils : *Miss E. DOWNING, M.B., B.S.

(Medical Practitioners attend their own patients.)

ORTHOPAEDIC CLINIC.

Superintendent Medical Officer : THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Consulting Orthopaedic Specialist : *Mr. H. J. SEDDON, F.R.C.S.

Masseuse : Miss H. MURPHY, C.S.M.M.G., M.E., S.R.E.

BLIND PERSONS.

Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon :

*E. V. OULTON, B.A., M.B., B.Ch., D.O.M.S.

Visitor to the Blind :

*Mrs. D. E. LEACH.

VACCINATION OFFICER.

*G. E. HODGES.

Public Assistance Department.

Advisory Medical Officer : THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

District Medical Officers :

*E. BRAMLEY, M.B., B.S. *C. R. ALDERSON, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Public Vaccinator : *E. BRAMLEY, M.B., B.S.

ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL.

Medical Superintendent : *H. R. McALEENAN, M.D., B.S.

Consulting Surgeon :

*E. A. FIDDIAN, M.D., D.P.H., F.R.C.S. (Edin.), L.R.C.P.

Consulting Radiologist : *G. P. NORMAN, M.D.

Consulting Dentist : *A. H. PICKETT, L.D.S., R.C.S. (until October).

House Surgeon :

A. R. FORD, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (to 6th November, 1938).

JAMES GARDEN, M.B.Ch.B. (from 3rd November, 1938).

Matron : Miss M. LETHEREN.

CHILDREN'S HOMES.

Superintendent : Miss M. A. VICKERY.

SCHOOL CLINICS.

Medical Consultants :

Ophthalmic : *E. V. OULTON, B.A., M.B., B.Ch., D.O.M.S.

Aural } *D. E. O'C. CUFFEY, F.R.C.S., Ed.

Throat } *R. C. MACQUEEN, F.R.C.S.

Orthopaedic : *H. J. SEDDON, F.R.C.S.

Radiology : *G. P. NORMAN, M.D., M.B., Ch.B.

Dentist : *A. H. PICKETT, L.D.S., R.C.S.

Medical Inspector, Secondary Schools : *T. TURNER, M.B., B.S.

* *Part-time Officers.*



County Borough of Eastbourne, 1938.

SITUATION.—Latitude, 50° 46' N. ; Longitude, 0° 17' E.

ELEVATION OF THE AREA BUILT OVER.—Varies from 300 feet (at the West End) to 4 feet below high-water mark of spring tides (in East of the Borough).

SLOPE.—From West to East. ASPECT.—South and South-East.

AREA.—Of the Borough, 11,356 acres including foreshore 332 acres.

DENSITY OF POPULATION.—For the Borough, about 5 persons per acre ; for the part built over, about 24.

NUMBER OF INHABITED DWELLINGS.—At Census of 1891, 5,190 ; at Census of 1901, 7,088 ; at Census of 1911, 8,967 ; at Census of 1921, 10,083 ; at Census of 1931, 12,288 ; at end of 1938 (estimated), 15,647. HABITABLE HEREDITAMENTS (14.4.39), 15,852.

POPULATION.—Census 1891, 34,960 ; Census 1901, 43,344 ; Census 1911, 52,542 ; Census 1921, 62,028 ; Census 1931, 57,435 ; Registrar-General's estimate (mid 1938), 56,770.

RATEABLE VALUE.—£915,944.

GENERAL RATE.—8s. 4d.

BIRTH-RATE.—11.06 per 1,000. England and Wales, 15.1 per 1,000.

DEATH-RATES.—Death-rate, 13.65 per 1,000. Death-rate after correction by the factor received from the Registrar-General, 10.92 per 1,000. England and Wales, 11.6 per 1,000.

Nett Infantile Mortality, 51.2 per 1,000 births. England and Wales, 53 per 1,000 births.

MEAN ANNUAL TEMPERATURE.—51.6 degrees Fahr.

HOURS OF BRIGHT SUNSHINE.—1788.8 hours ; daily average, 4.90 hours ; summer six months, 6.56 ; winter, 3.28 hours.

TOTAL RAINFALL.—28.60 inches.

*To His Worship the Mayor and to the Aldermen and Councillors
of the County Borough of Eastbourne.*

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

In accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health, I submit herewith my Annual Report on the Vital Statistics and the work of the Public Health Department for the year 1938. This is my forty-fifth such report and it is with much regret that I am submitting what must be my final Annual Report and giving up duties which, though responsible and at times heavy, I have much enjoyed.

It is a very pleasant memory to have had to do with the development of Public Health Services in Eastbourne over so many years. Forty-five years ago the various services set out in this report, and the School Medical Services, for the most part did not exist and those that existed were very rudimentary.

The constant forward policy of successive Sanitary and other committees of the Council, aided by the parallel improvement in social conditions, has enabled Eastbourne to keep in the foreground of all the improvements in Public Health that have occurred in this country.

In Council life it is noteworthy to the onlooker who has an inside view, how in each committee of the Council there are members who devote much time and energy to the particular objects of that committee, and this has been especially evident to me in regard to the Sanitary Committees year after year. I should like to thank very sincerely the members of the Council and especially of the Sanitary Committee for the constant support they have kindly afforded me.

The Vital Statistics of 1938 continue to show the effect of a constantly decreasing birth-rate. Though the death-rate of young people is very satisfactorily low, there are so comparatively few of them that the naturally high death-rate of old persons counteracts this favourable condition. In defence preparations in this country, this most important

factor of all, viz., the age of the population, seems to be overlooked.

Infant mortality showed an increase over recent years, though one could hardly hope that it would continue at the extremely low record of 1937. In June, the Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health, Sir A. S. McNalty, K.C.B., opened the extension from 16 to 25 beds of the Municipal Maternity Home.

A most satisfactory feature of 1938 was an acceleration in the continued decrease of cases of tuberculosis. In the last ten years there has been a fall of 33 per cent. The Tuberculosis Hospital used to be full with a waiting list: it has at times been half empty in 1938.

Diphtheria cases, in spite of absence of immunisation, continued to be very infrequent, but Scarlet Fever was more prevalent and for the first time for many years there were two fatalities, one in an adult and one non-resident. The cases at that time resembled acute septicaemia rather than ordinary scarlet fever. There was a smaller death-rate from such ailments in 1938 than ever since records have been kept.

Housing again has had special attention, and the Housing Inspector, Mr. Lindfield, has been responsible for much of the work and for the detailed report later on.

The Municipal General Hospital, St. Mary's, has continued its excellent work, and the improvements so very necessary, are being arranged for. There are not enough beds for males. The extension of the Nurses' Home is now about to be started. The Training School has been most successful, both for the hospital and the nurses, one hundred per cent. of the latter being successful in 1938 in their examinations.

During the year there have been some especially noteworthy items affecting the Department. I refer to the enlargement of the Borough, the crisis of September involving emergency hospital schemes, not only for our own sick and injured, but for those from London areas, and Air Raid Precautions.

In accordance with the instructions of the Ministry, I have commented in the Report on page 8 on the problems created by the changed conditions arising from the extension of the Borough on 1st April, 1938. The cost of this small extension may interest the advocates of a larger extension. Eastbourne has had to pay about £17,000 to the East Sussex County Council and to the Hailsham Rural District Council for the privilege of expending about £3,000 a year on the added area, with a prospect of capital expenditure on drainage, roads, lighting, education, etc., to follow. A very important feature of the extension is the inclusion of the sewer outfall and the land surrounding it within the area of the Borough.

At the time of the crisis in September, 1938, I was notified by the Ministry of Health that in the event of war Eastbourne would be expected to take patients evacuated from London Hospitals. As Agent of the "Hospital Officer" I was asked to arrange for 330 beds to be available and to be ready to take patients up to 200 at a time from a hospital train at short notice, with others to follow.

A meeting of Hospital Representatives and others was called at once and thanks to the ready co-operation of everyone, within a few days we were prepared to take the patients from London.

The scheme involved arranging to send to their homes the most convalescent patients from our local hospitals and to transfer from them also patients not acutely ill to Convalescent Homes and other Institutions to make room in those hospitals which had full facilities for serious cases, viz., St. Mary's, the Princess Alice Memorial, and the Leaf Homoeopathic Hospitals. Equipment for extra beds, and transport, had also to be provided.

The scheme, prepared at short notice, is now the basis of a permanent scheme on the same lines. Much of the equipment and stores is to be provided centrally.

There has also been elaborated an emergency Public Health Laboratory Service Scheme in connection with which

I attended a Conference of Medical Officers of Health of the South-East of England at the Ministry in October.

A "Tranfusion of Blood" procedure for Sussex is also being arranged.

In the Report will be found a short summary of the Air Raid Precautions work in this Department. Considerable time and energy has had to be spent on it, and Dr. Fenton and one of the Clerks have received additional appointments to carry out details. We have to thank various voluntary helpers also.

Though hardly Public Health Service, this precautionary work is necessary and inevitable, and the Medical Officer of Health has naturally been made responsible for the part of it that may be considered to border on medical work and hospitals. Unfortunately, much time has been spent owing to alterations, amendments, and other changes involved in the development of the scheme at Headquarters and locally, and the ordinary work of the Department has somewhat suffered in consequence. Some of the Clinics have had to be taken by *locum tenens* instead of by the Deputy Medical Officer of Health. Dr. Fenton has drawn up the summary on page 35 which, however, is but a small indication of the amount of time and energy he has expended on it. Since the end of 1938 this work has been very much extended.

Without the good will of the medical profession, it is not possible for the Public Health Service of the country to be carried out satisfactorily. I am very grateful, therefore, that in Eastbourne there has been thorough co-operation between the medical practitioners and the Public Health Department. I wish to express my gratitude for the co-operation which I have received from my medical colleagues which has made the work lighter, more pleasant, and much more effective than it otherwise could have been.

In relinquishing my duties, I should like to express my gratification at the assistance I have received from the staff of the Department, and from the staffs of the other

Departments of the Corporation. I have to thank Dr. Fenton, Mr. Ollett (who is ending an even longer service) and the other Sanitary Inspectors, Nurse R. Clark and the other Health Visitors, for the very good work they have done. As regards the clerical staff I particularly wish to express my appreciation of the work of Mr. H. T. Hounsom who has helped me to organise the Department in its present state since he was transferred in 1920 from the Town Clerk's Department, and also that of Mr. A. H. Hookham, who has assisted me in a similar way. These two officers have been excellent servants of the Corporation and have enabled me to carry out the increasing duties in a way that could not have been done without their ready aid. I am extremely grateful to these two members of my clerical staff and am grateful also to the other members of the staff who have contributed to make the work in this Department proceed smoothly.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. G. WILLOUGHBY,

Medical Officer of Health.

NATURAL & SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

PHYSICAL FEATURES.

THE Borough of Eastbourne, situated in Lat. 50° 46' N. and Long. 0° 17' E. was incorporated in June, 1883. On April 1st, 1911, Hampden Park was added and the Borough became a County Borough.

By the Eastbourne Corporation Act of 1926, approximately 14 acres were added to the Borough at its north-western extremity.

On April 1st, 1938, another 4,509 acres were added to the Borough mostly to the north-east.

The acreage is 11,356 ; of this 19 acres are inland water.

The Borough is situate on and at the foot of the eastern slope of the South Downs. The highest point is 643 feet above sea level on the downs ; the portion covered by houses varies from about 310.7 feet to 6.58 feet above highest mean sea level. The Downs shelter the town from the west and south-west.

The front of the town is open to the sea facing south and south-east, and this ensures a very large amount of sunshine, as is shown by the sunshine record.

One of the most satisfactory characteristics of Eastbourne is the extent of the Borough compared with the number of houses and population. The number of open spaces and gardens conduces to its healthiness.

With the large extent of sea front along the south and south-east and the downs on the south-west and west free and open to the public, Eastbourne is well provided with open space around it.

In accordance with a Local Act of 1936 the Corporation obtained by agreement lands forming part of the Downs in the neighbourhood of the Borough. The whole of the Downs on the west of the Borough is therefore open country and will continue so.

GEOLOGY.

Eastbourne is for the greater part on chalk, which is a very healthy sub-soil. The western part of the town, including Meads, Old Town and Upperton, is practically entirely on chalk. The central and eastern districts are to a small extent on chalk and green sand, but mainly on alluvium and shingle, with a little clay. Valley gravel covers the chalk and green sand in the valleys. There is a comparatively small amount of clay soil in the central part of the town, and a strip of upper green sand, which is narrow along the Grand Parade and widens as it passes from west to east to about Bourne Street, where it narrows again until it ends about half-a-mile east of the pier.

The remainder of Eastbourne in the east is on alluvium and on the beach.

Hampden Park is on the alluvium just at the termination of the chalk.

METEOROLOGY AND CLIMATE.

Full details, and comparative tables, of the meteorology of Eastbourne are given in the Annual Meteorological Report prepared by the observer, Mr. Hookham. Readings have to be taken every day throughout the year in all weathers, at 9 a.m., 5 p.m., and 9 p.m., Greenwich Mean Time. Eastbourne is a special meteorological station, and the department is kept in accordance with the wishes of the Meteorological Office in London, by whose officers periodical inspections are made.

A daily telegram (including Sundays) at 5 p.m. conveys information to the Meteorological Office, and a similar telegram is also sent after the 9 a.m. observations on week-days during the period that summer time is in force.

The instruments in use are :—

1. Sunshine recorder, electric and indicating cup anemometer and a M.O. pattern wind vane, at the Grand Hotel.
2. Rain gauge, Carlisle Road enclosure.
3. Barometer, barograph, and Mersteel temperature recorder at the kiosk, Grand Parade.

4. Thermometers, maximum, minimum, and wet and dry bulb in screen, earth (1ft. and 4ft.), grass minimum, thermograph and hygrograph, Carlisle Road enclosure.
5. Sea thermometer, the pier.

The readings most interesting to the public, together with a collection of charts, are exhibited at a kiosk on the sea front near the central bandstand.

The station needs a Dines' pressure tube to enable a continuous record to be obtained of the direction and force of wind.

We are obliged to the Grand Hotel and Eastbourne Pier Companies for kind permission to use their premises.

The proximity of the sea and the peninsular position of the Borough ensure equability of climate.

SUNSHINE.

The amount of sunshine in 1938 was 1788.8 hours or 98.6 hours more than in 1937. The daily average was 4.90 hours and varied from 8.89 hours in June to 1.36 hours in November. Eastbourne was the 10th on the list in 1938 for Great Britain and 6th for mainland towns. The total sunshine from 1st May to 30th September, 1938, inclusive, was 1031.7 hours, or 6.74 hours per day. During this period there were 9 sunless days and on 47 days the amounts were in excess of 9 hours.

The annual and winter averages of sunshine for 50 years (1888–1937 inclusive) were as follows :—

Annual Average.		Per cent. of possible duration.
Daily hours.	Total hours.	
4.93	1798.9	40

Averages for Six Winter Months.

		Per cent. of possible duration.
Daily hours.	Total hours.	
2.91	527.4	30

The average number of days on which sun was registered during 1888–1937 (50 years) was as follows :—

			Days.
6 summer months	..	..	172
6 winter months	..	..	129
Total	..	..	301

Eastbourne is always amongst those places near the head of the list for sunshine. The daily average of 5.02 hours for Eastbourne for the 30-year period ending 1935, shown in the Meteorological Office averages, now issued every 5 years, is exceeded by the Channel Isles only. The following table gives the number of hours of sunshine and Eastbourne's position in the official list for the last ten years :—

Year.	Number of hours.	Position in the List.
1929	2081.3	Highest.
1930	1839.1	2nd.
1931	1670.9	3rd.
1932	1660.0	Highest.
1933	2049.3	9th.
1934	1832.6	6th.
1935	1789.3	18th.
1936	1626.8	11th.
1937	1690.2	4th (2nd highest for mainland).
1938	1788.8	10th (6th highest for mainland).

NOTE.—The highest record for sunshine in the United Kingdom in any one year is held by Eastbourne with 2,158 hours registered in 1911.

TEMPERATURE.

The means of the maximum and minimum temperatures for the year 1938 were 56.8 and 46.5 degrees respectively, giving a mean annual temperature of 51.6 degrees.

The average daily ranges of temperatures throughout the year are very small, which is a most important feature in a health resort. The smallest ranges of temperature are to be found at sea coast towns, but these vary considerably and some border on the large range to be expected at inland towns. The average daily range in 1938 was 10.3 degrees. The daily range varied from 13.5 degrees in April to 7.6 degrees in January.

The average daily temperature for 50 years (1888–1937 inclusive) was as follows :—

Annual Averages.

Max.	Means of Min.	Combined.
55.8	45.4	50.6

Average for Six Winter Months.

Max.	Means of Min.	Combined.
49.2	39.9	44.6

SEA TEMPERATURE.

The average daily sea temperature at the pier head for 50 years (1888–1937 inclusive) is as follows :—

Jan.	..	42.5	July	..	62.4
Feb.	..	41.5	Aug.	..	63.6
Mar.	..	42.7	Sept.	..	61.1
April	..	46.6	Oct.	..	55.6
May	..	52.8	Nov.	..	49.6
June	..	58.4	Dec.	..	45.2
Year	..	..			51.8

In 1938 the daily temperatures ranged from 67.3 degrees in August to 38 degrees in February and December.

It is at Eastbourne and in the vicinity that the highest sea temperatures on the British coast are to be found.

RAINFALL.

The rainfall for 1938 was 28.60 inches, or 2.62 inches below the average (1888–1937 inclusive).

Year of lowest fall	..	..	1921,	15.79 inches.
Year of highest fall	..	..	1894,	38.54 „
Average rainfall, 49 years, 1888–1936				31.08 „
Average rainfall, six winter months,				
49 years, 1888–1936	..	..		18.28 „

In 1938 there were 173 “rain days,” but in this number, days with very small amounts are included, for .008 inch of rain in a day constitutes a “rain day.” The number of “rain days” in 1938 with the amounts were as follows :—

Amounts.	Days.
Trace or .004 inch	 28

—

				"Rain days."
.008 to .039 inch	..	..	..	47
.04 to .20 inch	..	..	..	78
.20 to .59 inch	..	..	..	42
.59 to .98 inch	..	..	..	6
Over .98 inch	..	..	..	—
				—
Total	..	..	..	173
				—

The average number of "rain days" for Eastbourne from 1888–1937 (50 years) is as follows :—

Amounts.				Days.
6 summer months	..	..	..	72
6 winter months	..	..	..	94
				—
Total	..	..	..	166
				—

In 1938 there were 276 days during which no measurable rain fell between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

RELATIVE HUMIDITY.

Average (14 years, 1923–37 inclusive).

9 a.m.	5 p.m.	9 p.m.
83%	80%	86%

The humidity as shown by the automatic recorder is often much below these figures during the daytime. It has reached the low level of 20 per cent.

WINDS.

In 1938, of the 1095 total observations, the prevailing winds came from the West with a total of 325 observations, or 29.68 per cent. The situation of the South Downs protects Eastbourne considerably from these prevailing winds and those from the south-west. The winds from the north-west totalled 221 or 20.18 per cent.

The observations from the north-east and east totalled 5.75 and 6.12 per cent., respectively. Of these last percentages more than half of each were recorded during the summer months.

GENERALLY.

Owing to its openness to the south-east, the climate is invigorating and has a tonic effect. Eastbourne is noted for its pure air, abundance of trees, high sunshine records, clean and quickly drying roads and its proximity to the breezy South Downs.

The winter sunshine records of Eastbourne are among the highest in the country and the daily range of temperature small. The average night temperature from December to February is higher than that of the French and Italian Riviera and the daily variation of temperature is less.

The dry soil, sunshine and bracing air are especially favourable for delicate children and, generally, for anaemia and convalescence after illness or operation. For a "change of air" it is a particularly favourable health resort, especially for those whose health for any reason requires invigorating. In such cases the natural advantages, combined with the many opportunities for amusement and healthy forms of exercise, make it a health-giving centre.

POPULATION.

The enumerated population at the 1931 census was 57,435; the children in the residential schools were absent at the time of the taking of the census.

There were 23,423 males and 34,012 females, practically two-fifths of the former and three-fifths of the latter.

In a previous report I set out details as to the ages of the population. In the last forty years the population has become a more aged one, due to decrease in the birth-rate and greater longevity.

In 1891, 10% of the population was under five years of age; in 1931, only 5.8%. At the other extreme, viz., over sixty-five years, the proportion has gone up from 4.24% to 11.2%.

Children of school age have decreased in number from 21.2% to 12.2% of the total population.

As the resident population decreased in the inter-census period, in the Registrar-General's figures this decrease is

assumed to continue. The extension of the Borough on April 1st involved an addition to the population of 1,420 persons. The population figure for the present whole Borough for mid 1938 has been given to me as 56,770 by the Registrar-General. I think it should be a higher one, but this figure is used for statistical purposes in this report.

At the census enumeration in April, 1931, there were 4,270 persons enumerated who were non-residents and 2,353 residents of Eastbourne were enumerated elsewhere in England and Wales.

Of the population, 84.3% were in private dwellings, 12.2% in hotels, boarding houses and lodging houses, 1.9% in institutions for the temporarily sick, 0.9% in educational institutions and 0.6% in poor law institutions.

In the ten years 1923-1932 inclusive there were 193 more births than deaths. Since then, as in all residential districts such as Eastbourne, deaths exceed births in number. Any increase in population is due therefore to immigration exceeding emigration.

In 1938 there were 147 more deaths than births.

The chief occupations of the inhabitants were, at the census of 1921, in order :—For Males : Commercial, transport, personal service, clerks, metal workers, professional, wood workers, agricultural and building. For Females : Personal service, professional, commercial, clerks and makers of textiles. The corresponding figures for 1931 are proportionately similar.

No one occupation had apparently any particular influence on the public health during 1938.

RATEABLE VALUE.

The rateable value of the Borough, 1938, was £915,944, and the sum represented by a penny rate £3,600.

EXTENSION OF THE BOROUGH, APRIL 1ST, 1938.

The Eastbourne Extension Act, 1937, extended the area of the Borough so as to include parts of the adjoining parishes of Eastdean (1,393 acres), Friston (92 acres),

Jevington (93 acres), Westham (1,407 acres) and Willingdon (1,524 acres) in the Rural District of Hailsham.

The added area is an irregular belt of land extending from the sea on the west and, enclosing the old landward boundary, meeting the sea again on the east.

Much of the new portion to the West and North-west lies between 150 and 500–600 feet above sea level, but to the East and North-east the area is mainly marsh land varying from 8.1 feet on the Pevensey Bay Road to 50 feet in a comparatively small area in the centre.

The area added to the Borough, mainly downland and agricultural land, comprises 4,509 acres and the additional population is 1,420, 16 in Eastdean, 776 in Willingdon and 628 in Westham.

Of the house property transferred there are 76 working-class dwellings to the West and 151 to the East, a total of 227. Seven dairy farms are included and of these 1 produces tuberculin tested milk and 4 produce accredited milk.

Two large wholesale slaughterhouses and four smaller slaughterhouses, all registered, were transferred. These slaughterhouses are scattered involving considerable travelling to keep abreast of the killing, which averages 60 bovines, 173 calves, 317 pigs and 435 sheep per week. These constitute a serious liability taken over by Eastbourne and involves nearly the full time of a qualified Meat Inspector. Most of the meat is sent to London and other centres. Other liabilities taken over in the added area by the Borough include : Mentally Defective Children, 3 (requiring special education) ; Mentally Defective Adults, 5 (three maintained in Institutions, and two under supervision) ; Insane in Institution, 1 ; Maternity cases requiring assistance, 3 ; Tuberculosis cases, 9 (seven pulmonary, two non-pulmonary ; General Maternity and other services.

In the eastern portion important drainage liabilities are making themselves already felt. The present cesspool system is requiring attention. Wells for drinking water require attention, also, though fortunately most of the houses are on the main public supply.

The main sewage outfall is included in the added area. This enables a more direct attention to be made to the receding foreshore.

The only service in the added area not entirely included in Eastbourne's arrangements is a part of the Maternity and Child Welfare service which as described under the Maternity and Child Welfare Section is temporarily still carried out by the Westham and Pevensey Nursing Association, to which a subscription at the rate of ten pounds annually is made.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The figures of the population, births, deaths and marriages of the area added to the Borough on April 1st, 1938, were so small in the first months of the year that I have included them in the Vital Statistics figures presented here and these represent, therefore, the conditions as they existed in the area of the whole of the enlarged Borough for the year. The actual figures of the added area are set forth in the part of the Report dealing with the Extension.

I submit the summary table required by the Ministry as follows :—

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

			Total.	Male.	Female.
Live Births—Legitimate	..	..	571	293	278
Illegitimate	..	..	57	35	22
Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 11.06.					
Still Births	..	..	27	17	10
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births, 41.2.					
Deaths	..	..	775	351	424
Death-rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 13.65.					
Deaths from puerperal causes.			Rate per 1,000 Total		
			Deaths.	(Live & Still)	Births
No. 28.	Puerperal septicaemia	..	Nil	Nil	
No. 154.	Other accidents of pregnancy & childbirth	..	3	4.6	
Total			3	4.6	

Death-rate of infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births	..	..	51.2
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births			45.77
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate births			105.26
Deaths from measles (all ages)	..	..	Nil
Deaths from whooping cough (all ages)	..	..	1
Deaths from diarrhoea (under two years of age)	..		Nil

MARRIAGES.

There were 451 marriages registered in 1938. This is a marriage rate of 15 per 1,000. In 1937 there were 420 marriages and 449 in 1936.

The average pre-war rate was 13.1 per 1,000. The highest recorded rate was 21.2 in the year 1915, and the lowest 11.32 in 1895.

BIRTHS.

The nett number of births in 1938 (including three which took place in the added area prior to 1st April) was 628, males 328 and females 300, or an increase of 12 as compared with the previous year, and a decrease of 24 on the figures for 1936.

The births in recent years have been as follows :—

Ten years, 1895–1904	..	average	916
Ten years, 1905–1914	..	average	879
Ten years, 1915–1924	..	average	742
Ten years, 1925–1934	..	average	671
1935	.. .. .	.. .. .	595
1936	.. .. .	.. .. .	652
1937	.. .. .	.. .. .	616

There were 147 more deaths than births in 1938.

The birth-rate calculated on the estimate of the population as 56,770 was 11.06 per 1,000.

In recent years the highest birth-rate was 21.8, in 1915, and the lowest 11.3, in 1930.

The England and Wales live birth-rate for 1938 was 15.1 per 1,000.

Of the 628 births, 57 were illegitimate, or 1 in 11.

Thirty-five of these infants were males and 22 females. The highest proportion was in 1918, when 1 in 7.8 were illegitimate.

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS.

Of the total births registered during 1938 all except 10 were at once notified to the Medical Officer of Health; enquiries showed that the omissions were accidental in the cases not notified.

Seven hundred and forty-six births were notified during the year, 640 being notified by midwives and 106 by parents and doctors ; 28 still births were notified.

DEATHS.

There were 854 deaths registered in Eastbourne in 1938 and four in the added area previous to its absorption. Of these, 140 were deaths of non-residents. Eastbourne residents to the number of 57 died elsewhere during the year. Including the latter and excluding deaths of non-residents, the nett deaths were as follows :—Males, 351 ; females, 424 ; total, 775.

The gross death-rate for 1938 was 13.65 per 1,000 on an estimated population of 56,770.

The death-rates of previous years were :—

1895–1904	..	..	average	11.74	per 1000
1905–1914	..	..	average	10.58	per 1000
1915–1918 (war years)	..	..	average	12.56	per 1000
1919–1928	..	..	average	10.97	per 1000
1929	..	..	..	13.55	per 1000
1930	..	..	..	11.3	per 1000
1931	..	..	..	12.83	per 1000
1932	..	..	..	12.00	per 1000
1933	..	..	..	13.27	per 1000
1934	..	..	..	13.12	per 1000
1935	..	..	..	12.78	per 1000
1936	..	..	..	13.15	per 1000
1937	..	..	..	14.11	per 1000

The total death-rate of England and Wales in 1938 was 11.6 per 1,000.

There was a fall in the death-rate for 1938, but this is partially due to the added number in the population.

The death-rate of young persons remains low, but the above table shows the effect of the decreasing proportion of young persons.

The Registrar-General sends to Medical Officers of Health a comparability factor for adjusting local death

rates. The factor for Eastbourne is 0.80. He says that "if the populations of all areas were similarly constituted as regards the proportions of the sex and age group components, their crude death-rates (deaths per 1,000 population) could be accepted as valid comparative measures of the mortalities experienced by the several populations. In practice, however, "populations are not thus similarly constituted" and accordingly the crude death-rate is multiplied by the factor given by the Registrar-General, and this represents the death-rate for comparing with other districts. The death-rate of Eastbourne therefore for 1938 per 1,000 of the population, for comparative purposes, was 10.92 instead of 13.65 per 1,000.

SEX MORTALITY.

The 775 deaths of 1938 were divided as follows :—

	Deaths.	Death-rate.
Males	351	15.4 per 1000
Females	424	12.4 per 1000

Pulmonary tuberculosis caused more deaths in males than in females. In other particular causes of death, cancer, apoplexy, syncope and accident caused a larger proportion of deaths in females.

AGE MORTALITY.

The deaths in the various age groups were as follows :—

				Persons.	
				In 1938.	In 1900.
Under 1	..	..	..	32	108
1—5	..	..	..	9	29
5—15	..	..	..	7	12
15—25	..	..	..	13	18
25—65	..	..	..	236	185
Over 65	..	..	..	478	149

I have added this striking comparison to show that the increased total death-rate is due to the increased age of the population and that as far as young people are concerned the death-rate is small and has been much reduced.

DEATHS OF NON-RESIDENTS.

These numbered 140 ; males, 75 ; females, 65. The principal causes of death were :—

Tuberculosis	..	..	2
Cancer	..	..	16
Accidents	..	..	19
Heart diseases	..	..	35
Apoplexy	..	..	15

DEATHS IN INSTITUTIONS.

	Residents.	Non-Residents.	Total.
Princess Alice Memorial Hospital	.. 71	41	112
St. Mary's Hospital	 216	41	257
Leaf Hospital	 15	5	20
Gildredge Hospital (Tuberculosis)	.. 13	1	14
Borough Sanatorium	 2	—	2
9 Upperton Road (Maternity Home)	5	1	6
Queen Alexandra Cottage Homes	.. 1	—	1
Ear, Nose & Throat Hospital	.. —	1	1
	—	—	—
Total	 323	90	413
	—	—	—

DEATHS OF EASTBOURNE PERSONS IN INSTITUTIONS
OUTSIDE THE BOROUGH.

Brighton C.B. Mental Hospital	..	..	..	17
East Sussex County Mental Hospital	..	..	..	1
Stoke Park Colony, Bristol	..	..	..	1
Middlesex Hospital, London	..	..	..	1
St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London	..	..	..	2
Guy's Hospital, London	..	..	..	2
Radium Institute, London	..	..	..	2
Grosvenor Hospital, London	..	..	..	1
Putney Hospital	..	..	..	1
Cottage Hospital, Lymington	..	..	..	1
Buchanan Hospital, Hastings	..	..	..	1
Royal East Sussex Hospital, Hastings	..	..	..	1
Barming Heath Hospital, Maidstone	..	..	..	1

Oxford Mental Hospital	..	..	..	..	1
Royal Free Hospital, London	..	..	..	..	1
St. James's Mental Hospital, Milton	..	..	..	..	1
Cumberland Infirmary, Carlisle	..	..	..	..	1
					—
Total	..	..	..	..	36
					—

It will be noted that over 60 per cent. of the total deaths occurred in Institutions.

CAUSES OF DEATH OF EASTBOURNE PERSONS IN 1938.

A table in this section shows the principal causes of death in 1938 at various ages. Those diseases, etc., causing most deaths were as follows :—

	Number.			
Heart diseases	..	..	..	215
Apoplexy	..	..	..	97
Cancer	..	..	..	132
Males	..	..	..	61
Females	..	..	..	71
Tuberculosis (all forms)	..	..	..	42
Pulmonary	..	..	..	34
Non-pulmonary	..	..	..	8
Respiratory diseases	..	..	..	61
Bronchitis	..	..	..	16
Pneumonia (all forms)	..	..	..	42
Urinary diseases	..	..	..	43
Violence	..	..	..	39

Of the 775 deaths, heart diseases caused about 1 in every 4 ; cancer, 1 in 6 ; respiratory diseases, 1 in 12 ; apoplexy, 1 in 9 ; tuberculosis, 1 in 18. Of the 39 deaths from violence, 37 were from accidents and 2 were suicidal.

“Heart disease” is the common cause of death mentioned in death certificates of very old people.

The deaths from cancer were of persons over 55 years of age, except in 19 cases. Six occurred below 45, and the largest age group of these deaths was that from 55 to 65 years.

DEATHS FROM SPECIFIC FEBRILE OR ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

These diseases caused 1.3 per cent. of the total deaths. The 2.0 per cent. of 1935 was the previous lowest recorded. In 1889 the percentage was as high as 24.

The ten deaths were caused by the following diseases :—

Whooping cough..	1	Endocarditis ..	2
Influenza	1	Scarlet Fever ..	1
Septicaemia ..	3	Erysipelas ..	1
Carbuncle ..	1		

There were no deaths from infantile diarrhoea, measles, diphtheria, puerperal fever or enteric fever. The percentage of such deaths is the lowest ever recorded.

INQUESTS.

Coroners' inquests were held on 47 deaths.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

There were 3 deaths of Eastbourne mothers in connection with pregnancy and childbirth in 1938.

In one case death was due to heart failure at the close of labour under chloroform (3 drachms only) forceps case, but only at a late stage and quite simple. The labour had lasted about fifteen hours.

In the second case the cause of death was uraemia and eclampsia. A caesarian section was performed.

The third case was one of haemorrhage during abortion. Post-mortem examination showed purulent salpingitis.

REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S TABLE OF CAUSES OF
DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE IN
THE COUNTY BOROUGH OF EASTBOURNE, 1938

[illegible]

CAUSES OF DEATH—continued.

[illegible]

CANCER.

There was an increase in the number of deaths from cancer in 1938.

This is shown in the following table :—

Decade.	Average Yearly Deaths.		Death-rate per 1,000.	
1894–1903	..	33.2	..	0.718
1904–1913	..	55.8	..	1.097
1914–1923	..	68.9	..	1.343
1924–1933	..	105.8	..	1.818

Year.	Total Net Deaths.		Death-rate per 1,000.	
1934	..	113	..	2.0
1935	..	111	..	2.0
1936	..	105	..	1.9
1937	..	117	..	2.1
1938	..	132	..	2.3

The 132 deaths included 61 males and 71 females. The increase in the death-rate per 1,000 of the population shows that there is a definite increase in Cancer as a cause of death, and this is still going on.

Part of this increase is due to the increase in average age of the population and greater length of life. This is shown by the increase in the average age of the fatal cases. It is at ages over 65 that the greater part of the increase in cancer has occurred.

In my report for 1937 I wrote at length on cancer mortality. I repeat the forms of treatment available.

TREATMENT.—This may be summed up as operation for removal, radium therapy and X-ray therapy.

Operation.—There are good facilities in Eastbourne for both private and hospital skilled attention.

Radium.—Since 1934 a supply of Radium on loan from the “British Empire Cancer Campaign” has been available at the Princess Alice Memorial Hospital. Cases treated in 1934, two; in 1935, sixteen; in 1936, twenty-six; in 1937, twenty-one; and in 1938 fifty-nine. Other

Eastbourne cases have been radium treated at the Leaf Hospital, in London Hospitals and possibly elsewhere.

X-Ray.—This may be superficial or deep X-ray treatment. Medium depth and superficial treatment is sometimes carried out locally.

The great essential is that the treatment should be early in the disease and that, therefore, diagnosis should be early.

PREVENTION.—There being no local industry likely to induce cancer no steps can be taken in this direction except in general advice, especially in the Maternity Clinic.

Most of the cases involve deep seated structures. In uterine cases, care at labour and post-natal attention must be preventive. How far the very large proportion of stomach and intestine cases could be prevented is very doubtful but the ill-usage these organs so often receive in the way of irritation may be a contributory cause.

In the absence of more knowledge as to the nature of cancer and of its causes, both direct and contributory, very little can be done in preventive therapy. Until this condition is altered, the best hope is in early diagnosis and treatment.

There is no clinic for cancer in Eastbourne apart from the work done at the Hospitals and at the Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics. No circular to the public has been issued. It might have more ill effect than use by causing unnecessary alarm. Steps will now have to be taken to carry out the provisions of the Cancer Act, 1939.

DEATHS FROM CANCER.

Year.	Popula- tion.	AGE GROUPS.						Total Deaths.	Death-rate per 1,000.
		0-1	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-65	65 & over.		
1904	45,750	—	—	—	—	**	**	54	1.18
1905	46,500	—	—	—	1	29	21	51	1.09
1906	49,000	—	—	—	—	25	25	50	1.02
1907	50,500	—	—	—	1	32	20	53	1.06
1908	51,500	1	—	—	—	20	27	48	0.93
1909	52,000	—	—	1	1	28	20	50	0.96
1910	52,500	—	—	—	—	38	24	62	1.18
1911	52,544	—	—	—	—	27	32	59	1.12
1912	53,500	—	1	—	—	35	28	64	1.19
1913	54,000	—	—	1	—	35	21	67	1.24
Total	—	1	1	2	3	***	***	558	—
1914	54,500	—	—	—	—	35	34	69	1.26
1915	47,125	—	—	—	—	34	17	51	1.08
1916	49,976	—	—	—	—	**	**	65	1.30
1917	44,842	—	—	—	—	33	27	60	1.33
1918	49,682	—	—	—	—	26	21	47	0.94
1919	50,442	—	—	—	—	36	26	62	1.22
1920	50,354	—	—	—	—	26	50	76	1.50
1921	53,600	—	—	—	1	50	50	101	1.88
1922	53,700	—	1	—	2	44	41	88	1.63
1923	53,900	—	—	—	—	37	33	70	1.29
Total	—	—	1	—	3	**	**	689	—
1924	54,830	—	—	—	1	37	44	82	1.49
1925	55,060	—	1	—	1	38	54	94	1.70
1926	56,060	—	—	—	—	45	61	105	1.80
1927	57,000	—	—	—	1	50	59	110	1.90
1928	58,500	—	—	—	—	45	53	98	1.67
1929	58,570	—	—	1	—	48	59	108	1.84
1930	59,000	—	—	—	—	41	63	104	1.50
1931	55,710	—	—	—	—	49	69	118	2.11
1932	57,500	—	—	—	2	45	78	125	2.17
1933	56,550	—	—	—	—	49	65	114	2.0
Total	—	—	1	1	5	447	605	1058	—
1934	56,250	—	—	1	—	46	66	113	2.0
1935	56,100	—	—	—	—	36	75	111	2.0
1936	55,730	—	—	—	—	49	58	105	1.9
1937	55,610	—	—	—	—	55	63	118	2.1
1938	56,770	—	—	—	—	48	84	132	2.1

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The nett number of deaths of infants, that is of children under one year of age, was 32 (males, 16 ; females, 16).

Infantile mortality is calculated on the number of births in the same period, and for 1938 was at the rate of 51.2 per 1,000 births.

Fifteen of the deaths were from prematurity and allied causes, and 20 within 4 weeks of birth.

The following table compares the infant mortality of recent years :—

Year.	Deaths.	Mortality Rate.
1928 ..	31 ..	42.69
1929 ..	34 ..	52.87
1930 ..	27 ..	40.47
1931 ..	24 ..	36.8
1932 ..	31 ..	44.2
1933 ..	32 ..	50
1934 ..	28 ..	43.5
1935 ..	20 ..	33.6
1936 ..	30 ..	46.01
1937 ..	19 ..	30.8

In the closing years of the last century, 1898, 1899 and 1900, the mortality rates were 139, 145 and 121 respectively.

The subjoined table shows the causes of death and the age at death of the infants who died.

Six illegitimate children died. The comparative mortality rates of these and of legitimate children are as follows :—

Legitimate infants mortality rate, 45.77 per 1,000 births.

Illegitimate infants mortality rate, 105.26 per 1,000 births.

The figures are too small for reliance to be placed on comparative death-rates.

The infant mortality rate for England and Wales in 1938 was 53 per 1,000 births, or 1.8 per 1,000 births more than that of Eastbourne.

The steps taken to prevent infant mortality are detailed in the Maternity and Child Welfare section of this report.

I have included in this report a table showing the causes of deaths of infants for the past 45 years. The table is arranged in 10-year periods to show the directions in which the reduction in infantile mortality has occurred.

AGES AT DEATH OF INFANTS.

Causes of Death.	Total.						
	Under 1 wk.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Under 1 mth.	1-3 mths.	3-6 mths.
Premature Birth ..	7	6	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital Defects ..	11	5	1	—	—	5	—
Pneumonia and Bronchitis ..	5	—	—	—	—	1	1
Atelectasis ..	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Want of Attention at Birth ..	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Suffocation ..	2	—	—	—	—	2	—
Accident ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Convulsions ..	3	—	1	—	—	1	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Totals ..	32	13	3	—	—	9	3
						2	2

INFANT DEATHS, 1894-1938.

Diseases.	ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR 10 YEARS.				1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
	1894- 1903	1904- 1913	1914- 1923	1924- 1933					
Measles	2.0	0.9	0.4	0.3	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	4.3	2.0	2.0	1.1	1	1	2	1	—
Chicken Pox	—	0.2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diarrhoea—Enteritis and Gastro Enteritis	24.7	11.2	5.0	1.0	—	—	—	—	—
Premature Birth	19.2	17.5	11.8	8.8	5	7	11	3	7
Congenital Defects	2.8	5.0	2.9	3.7	5	2	1	5	6
Debility—Marasmus	8.8	7.8	8.0	3.6	3	—	—	—	4
Tubercular Meningitis	1.8	1.0	0.6	0.6	—	—	1	—	—
Mesenterica—Tubercle	4.5	2.0	0.9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Disordered Dentition—Teething	0.5	—	0.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Convulsions	6.2	1.8	1.8	1.0	2	—	1	2	3
Bronchitis	8.9	5.3	2.9	0.9	—	2	—	2	—
Broncho-Pneumonia—Other Respiratory Diseases	3.7	6.4	4.3	3.9	7	4	3	1	5
Pericarditis—Heart Diseases	1.1	—	0.1	0.1	—	—	—	1	—
Gastritis—Stomach Diseases, etc.	3.9	0.6	1.3	0.3	2	1	—	—	—
Accidental	1.4	0.2	0.2	0.7	—	—	—	—	1
Venereal Diseases	1.1	0.6	0.7	0.1	—	—	—	—	—
Cellulitis	—	—	0.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Injury at Birth	—	0.1	0.5	1.0	—	—	1	—	—
Heat Stroke	—	—	0.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Intussusception	—	—	0.2	0.1	—	—	—	—	—
Eczema	—	—	0.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Suffocation	1.0	0.5	0.5	0.3	1	1	—	1	2
Death during Operation	—	—	0.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Influenza	1.4	0.1	0.4	0.3	—	—	—	—	—
Atelectasis	1.0	0.3	1.3	0.5	1	—	2	1	1
Meningitis—Inflammation of Brain	2.3	1.3	0.1	0.5	—	—	1	—	1
Other Diseases—Nervous System	0.7	—	0.1	—	—	1	—	—	—
Intestinal Obstruction	—	—	0.3	0.2	1	—	1	—	—
Diseases of Lymphatic System	—	—	0.1	0.2	—	1	1	—	—
Ill Defined—Not Certified	1.7	0.7	1.1	0.3	—	—	1	2	—
Liver Diseases	—	—	0.2	0.1	—	—	—	—	—
Found Dead	—	—	0.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ear Disease	—	—	0.1	—	—	—	1	—	—
Nephritis—Brights Disease	0.5	—	—	0.2	—	—	1	—	—
Abscesses	—	—	0.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Purpura	0.3	—	0.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Haemorrhage from Bowels	0.1	—	0.1	0.1	—	—	—	—	—
Murder—Manslaughter	—	—	0.1	0.1	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	0.2	0.5	0.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Want of Breast Milk—Starvation	—	0.5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Laryngitis	0.2	0.1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Septic Diseases	0.2	0.1	—	0.3	—	—	—	—	—
Rickets	0.5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Constitutional Diseases	0.8	—	—	0.3	—	—	—	—	2
Other Causes	2.7	12.6	2.8	0.3	—	—	2	—	—
Total Deaths	108.5	79.3	52.3	30	28	20	30	19	32
Infantile Mortality Rate	118.2	96.6	68.8	45.7	43.5	33.6	46.0	30.84	51.2
Total Births	917.3	891.3	759.8	673.7	643	594	652	616	628

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

HOSPITALS PROVIDED BY THE AUTHORITY.

1. GENERAL.—St. Mary's Hospital, formerly the Poor Law Infirmary, was transferred to the Council on April 1st, 1930. The hospital is under the care of the Public Assistance Committee, and not "appropriated." As from the 1st April, 1937, the hospital has been administered under Part IV. of the Public Assistance Order, 1930, which means that the hospital, as from this date has been administered as an establishment separate from the Institution. The accommodation is as follows: for males, 50; for females, 102; for maternity cases, 6; for children, 42; and for infirm persons requiring hospital care, 44. There are also 6 cots in the maternity unit, and one isolation bed and cot in the same unit, making a total of 252 beds. Beds for males being wanted a smoking room was converted into an additional ward of six beds. A summary of this hospital's work in 1938 will be found in the report.

2. FEVER.—The Municipal Fever Hospital situated at the west end of the Borough in East Dean Road, at the end of the slope of the downs, has 62 beds in seven blocks. It is supported mainly by the Council, but there were contributions of £167 from the Schools' Associations for the use of special blocks. No charge is made to residents. Other patients during the year paid £60 (financial year, April 1st, 1938, to March 31st, 1939.) The Hailsham Rural District Council whose cases are now received in the Borough Hospital since 1st April, 1937, paid a retaining fee of £150 and about £710 for patients from its area.

3. SMALL-POX.—The Small-Pox Hospital of 18 beds in three wards, is situated on the Crumbles near the sea in the parish of Westham. It is in the area added to the Borough on April 1st.

4. TUBERCULOSIS.—The Gildredge Hospital is situated within the Borough and at the foot of the Downs. There

are 24 beds in bungalows of two beds each ; 12 are for men and 12 for women. Occasional part payments are obtained.

5. MATERNITY.—The Municipal Maternity Home of 16 beds is situated at 9 Upperton Road, in the centre of the Borough. An extension was completed during the year which increased the accommodation to 25 beds. It is supported by the Council with the aid of fees.

HOSPITALS NOT PROVIDED BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

	No. of Beds.
Princess Alice Memorial Hospital	120
Leaf Homoeopathic Hospital	31
Royal Eye Hospital	15
Ear, Nose and Throat Hospital	20

Out-patients are not provided for at the Hospitals except in special cases.

The Council pays £2. 2s. per case to the Ear, Nose and Throat Hospital for children operated on for enlarged tonsils and adenoids, and occasionally for similar cases at the Leaf Homoeopathic Hospital.

There is an institution for unmarried mothers and illegitimate infants. It is also a maternity home for such cases. The Council provides part payment for not more than five of the mothers from the district and a contribution from the block grant of £151. 3s. 7d.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.—For infectious cases two motor ambulances are provided. For other cases there is a motor ambulance managed by the police, and two by the local St. John Ambulance Division. Extra Ambulances are now available in connection with Air Raid Precautions including five converted Omnibuses.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES, 1938.

1. Maternity and Child Welfare—

- (a) Avenue House.—Doctor's, nurses' and waiting rooms.
- (b) Acacia Villa, Seaside.—Doctor's and waiting rooms.
- (c) Maternity Home.—Doctor's, nurses', changing and waiting rooms.
- (d) Hampden Park Hall.—Doctor's and waiting rooms.

2. School Clinics.—General, Ophthalmic, Ear, Minor Ailments, Dental and Orthopaedic—

(a) Avenue House.

(b) Acacia Villa.

(c) Hampden Park Hall.

The same rooms are used as for maternity and child welfare at different hours.

(d) Ear, Nose and Throat Hospital. — Tonsil and adenoid operations.

(e) Orthopaedic Clinic.—Avenue House. Arrangements for orthopaedic and light treatment and for massage.

(f) The children at the Open Air School are dealt with there, as far as possible.

3. Tuberculosis Clinic—

At Avenue House. — Doctor's, changing and waiting rooms.

4. Venereal Diseases Clinic—

At Avenue House.—Doctor's, nurses', changing, waiting and irrigation rooms.

All these clinics are provided by the Local Authority except that for the accommodation for tonsil and adenoid operations which are paid for by the Authority. This clinic with bed for at least three nights, is provided by the Ear, Nose and Throat Hospital.

5. Fractures Clinic—

At the Princess Alice Memorial Hospital. This was established on 1st April, 1936.

6. Mental Ailments Clinic—

At the Princess Alice Memorial Hospital. Particulars are given later in this report.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

A list of the Public Health Officers is set out at the commencement of this report.

The medical officers and the nurses are also officers of the school medical service, otherwise full-time officers.

The names and qualifications are given in the list of officers.

As so much of the meat of Eastbourne was slaughtered in the surrounding rural district, an arrangement was made and commenced to be operative on December 3rd, 1928, whereby the Eastbourne Council paid £100 per annum towards the salary of a meat inspector appointed by the Rural District Authority. The district containing the Slaughterhouses was added to the Borough in 1938 and an additional Sanitary Inspector appointed.

The nominal appointment, unpaid, of an Assistant Sanitary Inspector, which was made in August, 1923, to enable the local Inspector of the R.S.P.C.A. to enter slaughterhouses to see the methods of killing used, continues.

The Local Authority has six female Health Visitors, whose duties are as follows :—One Superintendent, who is Inspector of Midwives and attends at clinics ; five have a district each for maternity and child welfare work, and for school medical work, and also assist at clinics.

The Municipal Midwife is attached to and resident at the Maternity Home. There is no subsidy for any other midwife.

MIDWIVES.—The number of midwives who notified their intention to practice during 1938 was 39. The Local Authority employed 5 in the Maternity Home and 1 in external practice and 14 in St. Mary's Hospital. Two were in private nursing homes, 6 at the Bell Hostel and 11 in general practice, only 3 of whom were in regular practice in the Borough.

HOME NURSING.

Home nursing is carried out by voluntary associations, and particularly by the nurses of the parish churches. Payments are made to the following of these by the Local Authority :—£30 annually to the Hampden Park District Nursing Association, £50 to the Christ Church Nursing Association, £30 to the All Souls' Nursing Association and £30 to the St. Andrew's Nursing Association.

The local associations kindly co-operate with the staff of the Authority when necessary.

General nursing in the home for those of limited means is provided by the above associations. The co-ordination with the Authority beyond the financial contribution is only that of friendly exchange of information and mutual help if occasion arises.

CHEMICAL WORK.

The Public Analyst carries out this work, except for a weekly partial analysis of water by the Medical Officer of Health. Details are given elsewhere in this report.

REGISTRATION OF NURSING HOMES.

Visiting Officer : THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

No. of applications for registration during 1938	..	1
No. of applications refused	.. .. .	—
No. of registrations cancelled	.. .. .	—
No. of appeals	.. .. .	—
Total number of homes on the register, Dec. 31st, 1938		22

The number of beds provided in these homes is 147.

MUNICIPAL CLEANSING STATION

One bath and disinfecter is provided. It was not used during 1938 for special cleansing.

PROVISION FOR PERSONS WHOSE HOUSES WERE BEING DISINFECTED.

Rooms are provided for this purpose at Acacia Villa, Seaside.

THE LOCAL ACTS AND ADOPTIVE ACTS

in force in the district are as follows :—

Eastbourne Improvement Acts, 1879 and 1885.

• The Eastbourne Improvement Act, 1885, Amendment Act, 1892.

Eastbourne Corporation Acts, 1902, 1920 and 1926.

ADOPTED ACTS.

Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890, sections 1 to 4, 16, and 18 to 24.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890, Parts I., II., III., IV., and V. (subject to the repeals effected in Parts I. and III. by the Public Health Act, 1936).

Public Libraries Act, 1892.

*Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, sections 17, 19, 21, 22, 27 (temporary buildings for territorial force excepted), 28 and 33 in Part II., section 54 in Part IV., Part VI., section 81, 85 and 86 in Part VII., Part IX., and section 94 and 95 in Part X.

Public Health Act, 1925, sections 13, 15 to 19, 21 to 26, 28 to 33 and 35.

There are for the most part administered by the Sanitary Authority through the Public Health Department.

GENERAL.

The amount of relief expended by the Council from April 1st, 1938, to March 31st, 1939, was £16,249. 18s. 7d. ; Poor Relief and Public Assistance, £15,409. 19s. 8d. ; Unemployment Relief, £839. 18s. 11d.

The arrangements made for relief were adequate.

* The following provisions of the Eastbourne Improvement Act, 1885, are repealed by the Order applying this Act, viz. :—Sect. 90 and Sect. 92 so far as the latter relates to any purpose of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907.

HOSPITALS—HOSPITALS WITHIN THE BOROUGH.

Name.	Situation.	Purpose.	Beds.			Used by	Management.	Medical Staff.	Consulting Staff.	Nursing Staff.
			Male.	Female.	Children.					
Princess Alice Memorial Hospital.	Carew Road, Eastbourne.	(a) Medical. (b) Surgical. (c) Children.	44 single bed wards for male or female and 1 for female.	47	26	Eastbourne and surrounding District.	Princess Alice Memorial Hosp. Voluntary Committee.	2 Res. Med. Officers 8 Vis. Sur. & Phys. 2 Visiting Dental Surgeons. 4 Anaesthetists.	8 Consultants (Specialists)	1 Matron, 1 Asst. Mat. & Sis. Tutor 8 Sis., 2 Mass., 8 Staff Nurses, 36 Prob.; also 1 Radiographer, 2 Lab. Assts.
Leaf Homoeopathic Hospital.	St. Anne's Road, Eastbourne.	(a) Medical. (b) Surgical. (c) Children.	9 private single wards	9	6	Eastbourne and surrounding District.	Leaf Hospital Voluntary Committee.	4 Visit. Physicians 1 Visit. Surgeon & Asst. Surgeon. 1 Vis. Dental Surg.	6 Consultants	1 Matron, 4 Sis. 5 Staff Nurses 4 Junior Nurses
St. Mary's Hospital.	Church Street, Eastbourne.	(a) Medical (b) Surgical (c) Children (d) Chron. Sick. (e) Maternity.	50	102	42	Eastbourne. 12 Beds reserved for East Sussex County Council.	Borough Council Committee.	1 Med. Sup. (pt. time) 1 Res. House Surg.	1 Surgeon and others as required.	1 Matron. 1 Deputy Matron and Home Sister, 1 Sis. Tutor. 1 Night Sister. 1 Mass.-Elec. Sis. 6 Sisters. 9 Staff Nurses. 27 Prob. Nurses. 1 Male Nurse. 8 Temp. Nurses. 1 Female Infirm Attendant. 1 Matron. 1 Sister. 3 Staff Nurses. 4 Asst. Nurses. As required from Isolation Hosp.
Borough Isolation Hospital.	East Dean Road, Eastbourne.	Infectious Illnesses.	—	62	—	Eastbourne. Hailsham R.D.	Borough Council Committee.	Medical Officer of Health (Non-Resident).	As required.	1 Matron. 1 Sister. 3 Staff Nurses. 4 Asst. Nurses. As required from Isolation Hosp.
Langney Hospital.	Langney, Hailsham R.D.	Small-Pox.	—	18	—	Eastbourne.	Borough Council Committee.	Medical Officer of Health (Non-Resident).	As required.	1 Matron. 1 Sister. 3 Staff Nurses. 4 Asst. Nurses. As required from Isolation Hosp.
Gildredge Hospital.	Upwick, Eastbourne.	Tuberculosis.	12	12	—	Eastbourne.	Borough Council Committee.	Medical Officer of Health (Non-Resident).	As required.	1 Matron. 1 Sister. 3 Nurses. 1 Matron. 1 Sis., 1 Nt. Sis. 3 Qual. Midwives 5 Pupil Midwives 1 Prob. Nurse.
Municipal Maternity Home.	9 Upperton Rd., Eastbourne.	Maternity.	—	25	—	Eastbourne.	Borough Council Committee.	1 Clinical Tuberculosis Officer. M.O.H. Private Practitioners attend their own cases.	1 Consultant Gynaecologist	1 Matron, 1 Sis. 2 Staff Nurses. 3 Prob. Nurses. 1 Matron. 2 Nurses. 1 Prob. Nurse.
Ear, Nose and Throat Hospital.	49 Cavendish Pl., Eastbourne.	Ear, Nose and Throat.	3 Paying Beds.	4	10	Eastbourne and surrounding District.	Voluntary Committee.	1 Aural Surgeon. 1 General Surgeon 2 Anaesthetists, 1 House Surgeon. 1 Medical Attendant.	1 Consultant Surgeon.	1 Matron, 1 Sis. 2 Staff Nurses. 3 Prob. Nurses. 1 Matron. 2 Nurses. 1 Prob. Nurse.
Royal Eye Hospital.	49 Pevensey Rd., Eastbourne.	Ophthalmic.	6	8	1 cot	Eastbourne and surrounding District.	Voluntary Committee.	1 House Surgeon. 1 Medical Attendant.	2 Consultants	1 Matron. 2 Nurses. 1 Prob. Nurse.

HOSPITALS OUTSIDE THE BOROUGH IN WHICH BEDS ARE RETAINED BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

Name.	Situation.	Purpose.	Number of Beds Retained.			Management.
			Males	Fe- males	Chil- dren.	
Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital.	Stanmore, Middlesex	Orthopaedic	—	—	5	Voluntary Committee.
Brighton County Borough Mental Hospital.	Haywards Heath	Mental Diseases	Min. Extra beds as required.	110.	—	Brighton County Borough Council.
East Sussex County Mental Hospital.	Hellingly	Mental Diseases	—	—	14	East Sussex County Council.
Brentry Colony	Westbury-on-Trym, Bristol.	Mental Defectives	5	—	—	Voluntary Committee.

HOSPITAL DETAILS.

Service for which available.	Hospital.	Beds.		
		Male.	Female.	Children.
*General Medical ..	Princess Alice Memorial Hospital ..	44	47	26
*General Surgical ..		plus 2 single beds for males and 1 for female		
Children ..	Leaf Homoeopathic Hospital ..	9	9	6
		plus 7 private wards		
Maternity ..	St. Mary's Hospital ..	50 J	102	42
	Municipal Maternity Home ..	—	25	—
	St. Mary's Hospital ..	—	6	—
	Bell Hostel ..	—	1	—
Venereal Diseases ..	No fixed arrangement.			
†Tuberculosis ..	Gildredge Hospital ..	12	12	—
Chronic Sick ..	St. Mary's Hospital ..	27	17	—
Mental ..	Brighton County Borough Mental Hospital, Haywards Heath ..		110	
	East Sussex County Mental Hospital Hellingly ..	—	—	14
*Mental Deficiency ..	Brentry Colony, Westbury-on-Trym, Bristol ..	5	—	—
*Orthopaedic ..	Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital, Stanmore, Middlesex ..	—	—	5
Ear, Nose and Throat ..	Ear, Nose and Throat Hospital, Eastbourne ..	3	4	10
		3 Paying Beds		
Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia	Infectious Diseases Hospital, Eastbourne	}	62	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	Infectious Diseases Hospital, Eastbourne			
General Infectious Diseases ..	Infectious Diseases Hospital, Eastbourne			
Small-Pox ..	Langney Hospital, Eastbourne ..		18	
Ophthalmic ..	Royal Eye Hospital, Eastbourne ..	6	8	—

* Additional beds are secured in Institutions outside the Borough for special cases when necessary.

† Patients requiring Sanatorium treatment are sent to Institutions outside the Borough, principally to Grosvenor Sanatorium, Ashford, Kent.

J Six additional temporary beds for males were in constant use in 1938.

There has been no occasion to meet in 1938 any Committee under section 13 of the Local Government Act, 1936, but a joint Committee exists which would be consulted if occasion arose.

The Princess Alice Memorial Hospital and St. Mary's Hospital are full training Schools for nurses.

The Municipal Maternity Home is a training school for midwives.

LIST OF ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS
BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY TO HOSPITALS,
NURSING ASSOCIATIONS, ETC.

			£	s.	d.
Princess Alice Memorial Hospital	..	..	250	0	0
Leaf Homoeopathic Hospital	..	..	80	0	0
Eastbourne Royal Eye Hospital	..	..	34	15	0
Royal Surgical Aid Society	..	..	15	15	0
Eastbourne Ear, Nose and Throat Hospital	..		40	0	0
Christ Church, etc., Nursing Association	..		50	0	0
Hampden Park Nursing Association	..	..	30	0	0
All Souls' Church Nursing Association	..	..	30	0	0
St. Andrew's Nursing Association	..	..	30	0	0
National Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children	..	..	5	5	0
House of the Good Shepherd	..	..	5	0	0
Mental After-Care Association	..	..	2	2	0
Church of England Waifs' and Strays' Association			5	5	0
National Council for the Unmarried Mother and her Child	..	..	2	2	0
British Red Cross Society	..	..	15	0	0
Industrial Health and Education Society	..		2	2	0
Royal Blind Pensions Society	..	..	2	2	0
Sussex Diocesan Deaf and Dumb Association	..		19	10	0
British Social Hygiene Council	..	..	9	6	0
National Institute for the Blind	..	..	20	0	0
Central Association for Mental Welfare	..	..	3	0	0
St. John Ambulance Brigade	..	..	25	0	0
National Library for the Blind	..	..	18	0	0
Central Council for Health Education	..	..	2	2	0
Central Midwives Board	..	..	11	0	5

AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS CASUALTIES SERVICES.

SUMMARY OF WORK DONE IN 1938.

SCHEMES.

Emergency Scheme.—19th September, 1938.

Amended Draft General Scheme.—10th September, 1938

Medical Practitioners' Scheme.—29th September, 1938.

MEETING OF MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS.

Princess Alice Memorial Hospital, April 1st, 1938.

MEETINGS.

The St. John Ambulance (Eastbourne Divisions) and the British Red Cross Society (Eastbourne Detachments) at the Clinic, Avenue House, on 13th April, 1938.

LECTURES.

General Barrow's Lectures to Doctors, Nurses and Dentists at the Clinic, Avenue House, and Princess Alice Memorial Hospital, October–November, 1938.

VOLUNTEERS.

1. *Recruitment*.—The number of volunteers who enrolled during 1938 was 435 ; one hundred and two men and three hundred and thirty-three women. Of these, sixteen men and twenty-nine women resigned or left the town during the year leaving 390 volunteers on the register at the end of the year. This total excludes personnel of the St. John Ambulance Brigade and the British Red Cross Society.

2. *Training*.—Volunteers residing east of a line Terminus Road, Upperton Road and Willingdon Road have been attached to the Eastbourne Divisions of the St. John Ambulance Brigade and those residing west of this line have been attached to the Eastbourne Detachments of the British Red Cross Society.

LECTURES IN ORDINARY FIRST-AID.

S.J.A.B. Nursing Division.—April–May, 1938 ; Sept., Oct., Nov., 1938.

S.J.A.B. Ambulance Division.—Sept., Oct., Nov., 1938.

B.R.C.S. Women's Detachment.—April–May, 1938 ;
Sept.–Oct., 1938.

B.R.C.S. Men's Detachment.—Oct., Nov., Dec., 1938.

Lectures in Anti-Gas Measures arranged for all volunteers
at Town Hall in September, 1938.

ESTABLISHMENT WARDENS.

Courses in Anti-Gas Measures held for Hospital
Establishment Wardens in July, 1938.

DEMONSTRATION.

Demonstration held at the Central Motor Coach Station
on May 11th, 1938. Personnel from St. John Ambulance
Brigade and British Red Cross Society. (Gas Casualties,
High Explosive Casualties, etc.).

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The Statutory Committee formed according to the Act of 1918 is a Sub-Committee of the Sanitary and Public Health Committee, and is composed of six members of that Committee, two co-opted ladies, and one co-opted medical practitioner.

Under the Scheme of the Council removing maternity and child welfare from the Poor Law matters pertaining to children including those in institutions and dealt with by the Guardians until April 1st, 1930, are managed by this Committee.

GENERAL MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

There are three centres. The principal centre is at Avenue House, and the others at Acacia Villa, Seaside, and Hampden Park.

- (a) A MOTHERS' AND INFANTS' CLINIC is held at 2 p.m. at Avenue House on Tuesdays and Wednesdays ; at Acacia Villa, Seaside, on Fridays at 2 p.m. ; and at the Hampden Park Hall on Mondays at 2 p.m.

Dr. Fenton was the Clinical Medical Officer, and Miss R. Clark the superintendent nurse.

The work of the clinic includes advice to mothers, and attention to minor ailments of infants and children under school age for which ordinary medical attention is rarely, if ever, obtained. The work is mainly preventive. Cases are sometimes referred to medical practitioners, and *vice versa*. Short demonstrations in such matters as washing and dressing infants are given. Light refreshments are provided by some ladies kindly interested in the clinics.

The attendances at the clinics in 1938 were 10,682 of 1,281 children, 663 under one year of age, 232 between one and two years, and 386 aged two, three and four years. The attendances in 1937 and 1936 were 10,455 and 9,328 respectively. Three

hundred and three mothers attended for advice on 1,582 occasions. Seventy-six expectant mothers attended on 181 occasions.

The staff at the centres included the Superintendent Nurse, Miss R. Clark, and Nurses Simmonds, Curtis, Mack, Ward and Newton. These nurses were also engaged in home visiting. The Superintendent gives one-quarter of her time, four nurses half their time and one nurse three-quarters of her time to maternity and child welfare, the remainder of the time being occupied by them as school nurses in their separate districts of the Borough.

The figures as to those attending at Acacia Villa in 1938 are included in the summary above. There were 2,060 attendances of 459 children, 229 under one year of age, 95 between one and two, and 135 aged two, three and four, 630 attendances of 116 mothers and 60 attendances of 19 expectant mothers.

The attendances of children in 1937 and 1936 were 3,370 and 4,729 respectively.

The following are the figures as to those attending at the Hampden Park clinic, included in the summary above :—There were 2,686 attendances of 283 children, 127 under one year of age, 43 between one and two, and 113 aged two, three and four years, 319 attendances of 50 mothers and 67 attendances of 26 expectant mothers.

The attendances of children in 1937 and 1936 were 2,472 and 1,856 respectively.

- (b) HOME VISITING.—The Borough is divided for this purpose into five districts, each having its own Nurse Visitor. The visits paid numbered 9,859 in 1938, and were as follows :—To expectant mothers, 405 ; to infants under one year, 4,274 ; and to children aged one to five years, 5,180. The percentage of births which took place in

Eastbourne notified to the Medical Officer of Health in 1938 was 98.8% or all but 10. In the case of 497 births, or 66% of the total number, visits were made. The Public Health Act enables the nurses to make visits within two or three days of a birth.

The department receives notices from the Maternity Home and from St. Mary's Hospital when maternity cases are discharged, and is thus able to keep in touch with the cases born in the Home and St. Mary's. The Municipal Midwife's cases are followed up when the midwife ceases to attend.

For the time being the Westham and Pevensey Nursing Association are continuing their excellent work in the Langney District added to the Borough on April 1st. Since that date its nurses have attended 28 patients, paying 503 visits (including two midwifery cases and 16 ante-natal visits). At the Association's Welfare Centre 13 mothers and 21 children attended. The mothers attended on 94 occasions. These figures allude to the work in the added area only.

- (c) ANTE-NATAL CLINIC.—(i.) At Avenue House, Acacia Villa and Hampden Park on Wednesdays, Fridays and Mondays at 2 p.m. respectively, in connection with the Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic. Number of attendances, 181 of 76 expectant mothers.

(ii.) At the Maternity Home, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday afternoons.

Number of expectant mothers attending	535
Number of attendances	2382
Number of visits of general practitioners to their patients at this clinic	220

The number of practitioners' visits was 84 less than in the previous year.

The majority of the cases were normal and required information on minor matters only. There were 36 abnormal cases, viz. :—

Albuminuria	..	..	..	..	5
Skin eruption	..	..	..	..	1
Carious Teeth	..	..	..	..	5
Loss of Blood, P.V.	..	..	..	..	1
Boils	..	..	..	..	1
History of acute Rheumatism	..	..	..	..	1
Disproportion	..	..	..	..	1
Cough	..	..	..	..	1
Fainting attacks	..	..	..	..	2
Pain in side	..	..	..	..	1
Presentation	..	..	..	..	1
Tilted pelvis	..	..	..	..	1
Lump in Breast	..	..	..	..	1
Rash on leg	..	..	..	..	1
Breech presentation	..	..	..	..	4
Vaginal discharge and varicose veins	..	..	..	..	1
Acute abdominal pain and sickness	..	..	..	..	2
Difficult delivery in first child	..	..	..	..	6

Some of these cases were serious and the ante-natal attention very valuable. General advice to the mothers was also given as regards the hygiene of pregnancy.

(iii.) Visits to ante-natal cases in their own home by nurses, 892.

There are special arrangements at the new extension of the Maternity Home to enable efficient ante-natal work to be carried out.

As 53% of the births are attended under the arrangements at the Home, ante-natal attendance is insisted on in about half the total pregnancies in the Borough. Including births at St. Mary's, where ante-natal work is also carried out when possible in the cases to be admitted, this percentage is increased to 65%, in addition to voluntary attendances in other cases.

The co-operation of practitioners is invited and presents no difficulties, their wishes always receiving attention.

- (d) POST-NATAL CLINIC.—Advice has been given, especially at the Maternity Home.
- (e) FOOD was distributed in 1938 in the form of dried or new milk for expectant and nursing mothers, and young children.

In connection with milk distribution, the scale of income (less rent paid) per member of the family, adopted in accordance with Circular 185 of 31st March, 1921, is as follows :—

Number in Family.		Free Milk.		Milk at Half Cost.	
1	..	5	0	..	6 0
2	..	5	0	..	6 0
3	..	5	0	..	6 0
4	..	4	6	..	5 6
5	..	4	6	..	5 6
6	..	4	6	..	5 6
7	..	4	6	..	5 6
8	..	4	6	..	5 6
9	..	4	6	..	5 6
10	..	4	0	..	5 0
11	..	4	0	..	5 0
12	..	4	0	..	5 0

Applicants for milk are required to fill up a form giving particulars of their income and rent paid. These forms are verified and milk granted in accordance with the above scale. In some special cases extra milk was allowed, although the income was beyond the scale.

The recipient's own dairyman is given an order for the increased supply, partly in the hope that it may help to avoid the difficulty of the extra supply being used to replace instead of to augment the milk supplied to the family generally.

(i.) *New Milk.*—

The total amount for which orders were given was 18,204 pints. Care was exercised to be sure that necessitous cases got the milk, and that, on the other hand, none was given in unnecessary cases. Two hundred and eight families received milk, 137 receiving it free, 42 partly free and partly at half-cost during the issue, and 29 at half-cost entirely, some families having it for two of the reasons set out :—

Expectant mothers	..	..	34
Nursing mothers	..	..	70
Infants	..	..	148

Amount allowed—One pint daily.

Average length of time allowed—12.4 weeks.

(ii.) *Dried Milk.*—

Total No. of pounds of dried milk issued				
during 1938	..	..	..	6575
No. of pounds issued at cost price	..	..	..	5325
No. of pounds issued at part cost	..	..	..	223
No. of pounds issued free	..	..	..	1027
Number receiving—				
Infants	..	..	..	270
Nursing mothers	..	..	..	1
Expectant mothers	..	..	..	1
Number paying full cost price	..	..	..	224
Number paying part cost	..	..	..	8
Number receiving free	..	..	..	40

Dried milk used—"Cow and Gate" and "Almata."

Other special foods, etc., supplied through the Clinic are Chymol, Virol, Cod Liver Oil and Cod Liver Oil and Malt.

In special cases chemists' vouchers are given for "Allenbury's" and "Trufood" to enable mothers to get these foods at a special rate.

- (f) BOARDING-OUT.—At the commencement of 1938 there were 9 children (6 males and 3 females)

boarded-out by the Local Authority, 4 being in Eastbourne, 5 in the area of the East Sussex County Council. During the year the chargeability of 1 female boarded-out in East Sussex was accepted by the Eastbourne Council. At the end of the year there were 6 males and 4 females boarded-out. The cases boarded-out in the county area are visited by the Visitors of the East Sussex Council, who send reports to the Local Authority, and those boarded-out in the Borough are regularly visited by the Health Visitors.

- (g) **INFANT LIFE PROTECTION.**—The duties under the Children and Young Persons Act, 1932, and the Public Health Act, 1936, with regard to infant life protection were carried out by the department, five of the Health Visitors being appointed visitors under the Act.

At the commencement of the year there were 40 foster parents on the register receiving 58 infants for fee or reward. During the year 44 new infants were added to the register, 34 removed on their return to parents and relatives, 6 on reaching nine years of age, 2 on being adopted, and 1 on leaving the town with his foster-mother. Fifteen infants were transferred from their foster-mothers to other foster-mothers.

Thirty-seven new registrations of foster-mothers were made, and 32 were removed from the register on relinquishing the care of infants, and 1 on leaving the town.

At the end of 1938 there were 44 foster-mothers on the register receiving 59 children.

Under the Act, notification was received from 4 private schools of 14 children under the age of 9 years.

- (h) **UNMARRIED MOTHERS.** — Temporary homes were provided for 12 of these cases. The estimates were framed to allow provision to be made for 5

cases at any one time up to twelve months from the date of birth.

Bell Hostel.—This hostel provides a local means of dealing with unmarried mothers and illegitimate babies, including “confinement.” The premises are excellent for the purpose, and the Committee carries out most useful work. There are 16 beds. During 1938, 26 confinements took place in the hostel. The hostel had also additional premises for the children of unmarried mothers.

The charges to the Council were as follows :—
25s. per week until the mothers went to work,
then 20s. per week.

There were 4 unmarried mothers and their infants, and 3 other illegitimate infants in the hostel on 1st Jan., 1938, at the cost of the Local Authority.

Six unmarried mothers and 2 other infants were admitted during the year, and 7 unmarried mothers and 2 other infants were discharged, leaving 3 unmarried mothers and infants and 3 other infants in the Hostel at the end of the year.

A contribution towards the maintenance of two unmarried mothers in a Church Army Home was paid by the Council during the year, the cases remaining in the Home at the end of the year.

The infant mortality rate of illegitimate infants in 1938 was 105.26 per 1,000 births ; that of legitimate infants 45.77 per 1,000 births.

- (i) MUNICIPAL MATERNITY HOME, 9 UPPERTON ROAD.—
Consulting Obstetric Surgeon : Dr. A. H. CROOK.
Matron : Miss MACINTOSH.

This Home was extended during the year from sixteen beds to twenty-five and has been brought generally up-to-date. This involved alterations in the later months of 1937, which made the work difficult and temporarily reduced the number of available beds to twelve during parts of 1937 and 1938. The twenty-five beds were

available in May, 1938, and are all situated in the new extension. The maternity and nursing quarters are not, as heretofore, in contact with the staff residential quarters.

The new premises were opened officially by Sir Arthur S. MacNalty, the Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health on June 3rd.

The following table shows the use which is made of the Home :—

Year.	Total No. of Births	Births in Municipal Maternity Home.	Percentage of Total Births taking place in Home.
1920	996	73*	7.3%
1921	813	113	13.9%
1922	699	99	14.1%
1923	738	134	18.1%
1924	672	144	21.4%
1925	699	147	21.3%
1926	766	191	24.9%
1927	696	203	29.1%
1928	757	240	31.7%
1929	674	221	32.7%
1930	703	248	35.2%
1931	728	264	36.2%
1932	758	252	33.2%
1933	749	265	35.3%
1934	718	260	36.2%
1935	674	256	37.8%
1936	769	268	34.8%
1937	726	237†	32.6%
1938	756	260†	34.3%

*Part Year only.

†Temporary reduction in number of beds from 16 to 12, at the end of 1937 and beginning of 1938.

Altogether there have been 3875 births in the Home until the end of 1938.

Two hundred and fifty-five mothers were admitted for confinement and 260 children were born, of whom 10 were still-born or immature births. There were five cases of twins, Seven other cases were admitted for ante-natal attention and treatment.

The ante-natal work at this Home continues to increase. The mother's own medical attendant is invited to attend and the services of the medical staff are otherwise available.

MATERNITY HOME.

MATERNITY CASES.

Return for the year ended 31st December, 1938.

1. Total number of cases admitted :—

For confinement	255
For ante-natal attention and treatment	7
	— 262
2. Average duration of stay 15 days
3. Number of cases delivered by :—
 - (a) Midwives, 136 ; 53.3%.
 - (b) Doctors, 119 ; 46.7%.
4. Number of cases in which medical assistance was sought by the midwife, with reason for requiring assistance :—
 - (a) *During Labour*—

Adherent placenta	1
Delayed labour	2
Foetal distress	1
Breech presentation	1
Premature labour	1
Uterine inertia	1
 - (b) *After Labour*—

Torn perineum	33
Sub involution	1
Inflamed veins	2
Increased pulse rate	1
Retained membranes	1
Tender left breast	1
 - (c) *For Infant*—

Prematurity	1
---------------------	---
5. Number of cases notified as puerperal pyrexia (*i.e.*, rise of temperature above 100.4° for 24 hours, or its recurrence within that period), Nil.
6. Number of cases of pemphigus neonatorum, Nil.

7. Number of infants not entirely breast fed while in the institution, with reasons why they were not breast fed :—
- | | | | |
|---------------------------|----|----|---|
| Mother in unfit condition | .. | .. | 4 |
| Insufficient milk | .. | .. | 3 |
| Mother unwilling | .. | .. | 1 |
| Cracked nipples | .. | .. | 1 |
| History of tuberculosis | .. | .. | 1 |
| Infant remaining in Home | .. | .. | 1 |
8. Number of cases notified as ophthalmia neonatorum, with result of treatment in each case, 1. Treated at L.C.C. Ophthalmic Hospital. Sight practically normal. Slight haze, but pupils clear.
9. Number of maternal deaths, with cause, 1. (a) Uraemia ; (b) Eclampsia (operation Caesarian section).
10. Number of foetal deaths (still-born or within 10 days of birth) and their causes, and the result of the post-mortem examination, if obtainable :—
- | | | | | |
|---|----|----|----|----|
| Still births | .. | .. | .. | 10 |
| Deaths | .. | .. | .. | 5 |
| (1) Prematurity. | | | | |
| (2) Acute cardiac failure : inanition. | | | | |
| (3) Premature birth : labour induced for severe toxæmia of pregnancy. | | | | |
| (4) Prematurity (28 weeks). | | | | |
| (5) Prematurity (30 weeks). | | | | |

The patients are attended by their own medical attendant if they wish ; otherwise by the matron and staff.

The charge for patients is £2. 2s. per week, for non-residents the charge is the current cost per patient per week. Occasionally higher fees are paid, and in suitable cases charges are remitted in part.

In the case of the 262 patients admitted, full charges were paid in 239 cases and part charges were paid in 23 cases.

The Home is sanctioned as a training centre for midwives, and particulars as to this branch of the work are as follows :—Eight nurses were taken for training, all of whom sat for their C.M.B. Certificate, 7 passing the examination.

- (j) INFANT WELFARE LECTURES.—In connection with the institution, two courses of lectures and training in the care of infants were given. Beside the staff, 9 persons attended the courses. Examinations were held, 8 certificates being awarded.

(k) MUNICIPAL MIDWIFE.—The municipal midwife for external work who lives at the Maternity Home was Miss P. Bavington. The work is directed from the Home. In 1938, 136 confinement cases were attended in various parts of the Borough, 33 of these were doctors' cases and 103 were managed by the midwife herself. In 1937 there were 106 cases attended. A second midwife for external cases will be appointed and the relief of staff hitherto afforded from the Home has ceased.

The total number of ante-natal visits paid by the municipal midwife was 487 and patients paid 444 visits to the ante-natal staff at the Maternity Home.

Medical assistance was sought by the municipal midwife in 27 cases, viz. :—

ANTE-NATAL.

Dizziness	1
Previous unsatisfactory history ..	1
Disproportion	1
Abdominal pain and headache ..	1
Sore throat and vomiting	1

DURING LABOUR.

Delayed second stage	1
Adherent placenta	1
Breech presentation	1
General unsatisfactory condition	1
Albuminuria	1

AFTER LABOUR.

Ruptured perineum	14
Pyrexia	1

FOR THE INFANT.

Unsatisfactory condition	1
Dangerous prematurity	1

The fee has been 30s. to bring it into line with the charges of other midwives. In a few cases it

was partially or wholly remitted owing to financial difficulties of the families.

(2) MATERNITY BLOCK, ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL (PUBLIC ASSISTANCE HOSPITAL).—The following is the return relating to this maternity block :—

1. Number of beds in the block, 6, plus 1 bed in an isolation ward.
2. Number of cases admitted during the year, 96.
3. Average duration of stay, 17.8 days.
4. Number of cases delivered by—
 - (a) Midwives, 78.
 - (b) Doctors, 18.
5. Number of cases in which medical assistance was sought by a midwife, 11.
6. Number of cases notified as—Puerperal pyrexia, nil.
7. Number of cases of pemphigus neonatorum, nil.
8. Number of infants not entirely breast fed while in the institution, 9.
9. Number of cases notified as ophthalmia neonatorum, nil.
10. (a) Number of maternal deaths, 2.
 (b) Cause of death.—
 1. (a) Uraemia ; (b) Eclamptic fits ; (c) Albuminuria of Pregnancy.
 2. (a) Peritonitis ; (b) Incomplete abortion purulent salpingitis.
11. Number of infant deaths—
 - (i.) Still-born, 13.
 - (ii.) Within ten days of birth, 5.
 The number of live births was 83.

The births in Eastbourne which took place under the supervision of the officers of the Local Authority, *i.e.*, at the Maternity Home, under the Municipal Midwife and at St. Mary's Hospital, number 492 or 65 per cent. of the total.

(m) MIDWIVES ACT, 1902.—Thirty-nine registered midwives (one untrained) gave notice of their intention to practise during 1938. Of these, 25 were practising in institutions, 2 in private nursing homes, 1 acted as the external municipal midwife, and 5 were midwives living in the County Area who were available to attend cases in the Borough. Only 3 practised regularly outside institutions. They are inspected by the superintendent nurse, herself a qualified midwife, and by the medical officers when necessary. The visits paid by the superintendent nurse during the year numbered 31. Those in the Institutions are inspected by the Medical Staff and Matrons.

Midwives attended 85 per cent. of the total births notified during 1938.

The following notices which midwives are required to send to the Local Authority were received :—

Birth of a still-born child	2
Artificial feeding	1
Death	1

Medical assistance was sought, apart from Maternity Home and municipal midwife cases, by midwives in 29 cases during 1938, viz., for the mother, 25 cases ; and for the infant, 4 cases.

For the mother—

Fits	1
Prolonged labour	5
Abortion	1
Breech presentation	2
Ruptured perineum	11
Hand presentation	1
Abnormal labour	1
Ante-partum haemorrhage ..	3

For the infant—

Inflammation of eyes ..	1
Difficult breathing	2
Wasting	1

The scale of fees arranged by the Ministry of Health was adhered to and where possible refunded amounts were obtained from the patients.

No midwife gave notice of ceasing practice, but one took a part-time appointment and reduced the number of births attended by her.

- (n) HOME HELP. — The Home Help (Mrs. Barker) attended 66 cases during the year, viz., 43 homes, for household duties in maternity cases and 23 homes for ordinary relief work (for expectant or nursing mothers or during illness of children).

- (o) HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.—*The Borough Hospital provides accommodation for puerperal fever, ophthalmia, measles and other infectious ailments.

The Princess Alice Memorial Hospital provides for some abnormal confinements if required.

*The Maternity Home at 9 Upperton Road provides for confinements of married women only. Twenty-five beds.

*St. Mary's Hospital (late Guardians' Institution) has an excellent maternity block for 7 cases.

The Bell Hostel, Salehurst Road, provides for unmarried mothers and their infants. Some cases are paid for by the Local Authority, as described above. Sixteen beds.

* Municipal Hospitals.

- (p) CRECHE.—Since March, 1926, there has been no Creche in Eastbourne. The attendance at the Creche was very small and the cost very great.

- (q) DENTAL WORK.—Mothers (prospective and actual) are occasionally assisted as regards dental work and dentures. The following dental assistance was given in 26 cases :—

Extractions and dentures	8
Extractions and scaling	1
Extractions only	14
Scaling only	2
Extractions and filling	1

Payments were as follows :—

Mothers paying full cost	1
Mothers paying part cost	4
Free cases	21

- (r) CLINIC STAFF.—Six part-time health visitors, one 75%, four 50% and one 25% time, who also assisted in school medical work.

The clerical work is carried out by the clerical staff of the Public Health Department.

- (s) OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.—One case was notified in 1938 ; no injury to vision resulted.

- (t) HAMPDEN PARK DISTRICT NURSING ASSOCIATION.—The Local Authority has agreed with the Association for the use of its nurse in some maternity (not as midwife) and child welfare cases in the district. A retaining contribution of £30 per annum is paid to the Association by the Council.

The following figures for 1938 show the extent of the work of the Association :—

Number of maternity cases ..	13
Number of ante-natal visits ..	158
Visits to children under 1	462
Visits to children between 1 and 5	101

- (u) VOLUNTARY ASSISTANCE.—Some ladies give practical help at the clinics in providing light refreshments for the mothers.

- (v) BREAST FEEDING.—Five hundred and twenty-two of the births were followed up for twelve months to ascertain the state of breast feeding. Of these, 232 mothers fed the babies naturally for nine months, in 252 instances the babies were partly breast fed, and 38 were hand-fed from birth. Of the 252 partly breast-fed babies, 22 were breast-fed for seven months and over, 86 from three to six months, 43 for two months and 101 for one month.

- (w) ORTHOPAEDIC TREATMENT.—The Council's orthopaedic arrangements at Avenue House include provision for infants and children under school age.

Subjoined is a summary of the cases in 1938.

No. of cases attending—110. No. of attendances—748.

	Patients.	Dis- charged.	Remain- ing under Treatm't.
Club foot	3	2	1
Multiple deformities	1	—	1
Pes calcaneum valvus	3	1	2
Pes metatarsal varus	12	3	9
Pes valvus	12	6	6
Pescalcaneum valvus & kn'ck knee	1	—	1
Spina bifida	1	—	1
Abnormality of skull	2	1	1
Trigger thumb	1	—	1
Deformity of finger	1	—	1
Supernumerary toes	1	—	1
Facial paralysis	1	—	1
Irregular toes	7	3	4
Congenital dislocation of hip ..	1	—	1
Abnormal thumb	1	—	1
Hare lip	1	1	—
Webbed fingers	1	1	—
Asymetrical skull	1	1	—
Postural defect	3	1	2
Genu valgum	24	11	13
Genu valgum and pes valvus ..	3	1	2
Congenital pes planus	4	1	3
O.C.T. (outer curve tibia) ..	10	4	6
O.C.T. (rickets)	8	1	7
Erbs paralysis	1	1	—
Torticollis	3	2	1
Cystic swellings	2	—	2
T.B. spine	1	1	—
	110	42	68

Mr. Seddon, of the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital, or his Deputy visits monthly as consulting surgeon.

(x) ARTIFICIAL SUNLIGHT TREATMENT. — Orthopaedic Clinic.—

Lamp used : Carbon arc (Quain).

Distance : 36 inches from lamp.

Dosage : From 1 min. gradually increasing to 8 mins.

No. of cases : 44.

No. of treatments : 670.

	Patients.	Dis- charged.	Remain- ing under Treatm't.
General debility	22	15	7
Nervous debility	12	6	6
Debility and glands	2	—	2
Urticaria	1	1	—
Septic sores and debility	1	1	—
Bronchial catarrh	1	—	1
Rickets	5	5	—
	44	28	16

(y) PUERPERAL PYREXIA.—Reference has been made under “Infectious Diseases” in another part of the report to this condition. There were 3 notifications.

(z) FINANCE.—For the year ending March 31st, 1939, the general maternity and child welfare work cost £3,849, and the Maternity Home, £4,154 with £1,774 capital charges in addition, a total of £9,777. The income as regards the centre was £426 and from the Home was £1,722, a total of £2,148. The balance of cost was £7,629.

These figures are taken from the Borough Treasurer’s estimates.

(aa) CHILDREN IN INSTITUTIONS.—On 1st January, 1938, 20 children were in institutions, as follows :—

	Males.	Females.
Warren Farm School, Brighton ..	10	—
St. Joseph’s Orphanage, Orpington ..	2	—
St. Ann’s Orphanage, Orpington ..	—	1
National Children’s Home & Orphanage, Edgworth, Lancashire	2	—
Wallingford Training Colony	2	—
House of Mercy, Clewer	—	1
St. Vincent’s School, Fulwood, Preston	1	—
Devon House, Bovey Tracey	—	1

Of these children, the following have been discharged :—

	Males.	Females.
Warren Farm School, Brighton ..	4	—
St. Joseph's School, Orpington ..	1	—

The cases in the House of Mercy, Clewer, and Devon House, Bovey Tracey, have been transferred to the Adult Section.

The admission of children to institutions during the year has been as follows—

	Males.	Females.
All Saints' Boys' Home, Eastbourne ..	1	—
Training Ship, "Indefatigable" ..	1	—

At the end of 1938 there were 15 children in institutions as follows :—

	Males.	Females.
Warren Farm School, Brighton ..	6	—
St. Joseph's Orphanage, Orpington ..	1	—
St. Ann's Orphanage, Orpington ..	—	1
National Children's Home & Orphanage, Edgworth, Lancashire	2	—
Wallingford Training Colony	2	—
St. Vincents School, Fulwood, Preston	1	—
All Saints' Boys' Home, Eastbourne ..	1	—
Training Ship, "Indefatigable" ..	1	—

(ab) COTTAGE HOMES (Superintendent : Miss Vickery).—
Transferred from the late Guardians to the Council on April 1st, 1930. There are four cottage homes for children situated as follows :—

	Accommodation.			
	Males.	Females.	Babies.	Total.
Nos. 2 & 4 Birling Street ..	4	4	—	8
Nos. 72 & 74 Green Street ..	—	3	14	17
Nos. 1 & 3 Dacre Road ..	25	—	—	25
Nos. 120 & 122 Green Street	—	23	—	23
	—	—	—	—
Totals	29	30	14	73
	—	—	—	—

The following is a table of admissions and discharges to the homes since 1st January, 1938 :—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
In homes, 31st December, 1937 ..	28	22	50
*Admitted during the year	49	63	112
Discharged during the year	46	55	101
Remaining in homes, 31st Dec., 1938	31	30	61

The reasons for discharge were as follows :—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Transferred to other institutions ..	5	—	5
Discharged to parents and relatives	19	30	49
Transferred to hospital	19	23	42
To work	2	2	4
To National Adoption Society ..	1	—	1
Totals	46	55	101

* Of these 22 males and 23 females were re-admissions.

(ac) NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO CHILDREN.—The following summary of the work of this society in Eastbourne has been kindly furnished by the Inspector (Mr. G. Gilbert) :—

(1) Complaints received—

Neglect	49
Advice sought	39
Ill-treatment and assault	24
Exposure	4
Other wrongs	18
Indecent assault	1

(2) Reported by—

General Public	77
School Officers	8
School Medical Department	13
Public Assistance Department	7
Police	10
Other Officials	4

(3) Found by Inspector 16 |

(4) How dealt with—

Warned and advised	125
Transferred, etc.	10

Supervision visits to warned and advised cases, 594.

I have again to thank Mr. Gilbert for his capable work in Child Welfare. Apart from his general services, we have asked for his assistance in many instances, and have always received courteous and able help.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following diseases were notifiable in 1938 :—
Under the Original Notification Act, 1889, as retained by
the Public Health Act, 1936 :—

Small Pox.	Cholera.	Enteric Fever.
Diphtheria.	Erysipelas.	Scarlet Fever.
Relapsing Fever.	Typhus.	Membranous Group.

Puerperal Fever is included under Puerperal Pyrexia.

By Orders :—

Tuberculosis (all forms).	Influenzal Pneumonia.
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Malaria.
Cerebro-Spinal Fever.	Dysentery.
Acute Poliomyelitis.	Trench Fever.
Encephalitis Lethargica.	Acute Pneumonia.
Puerperal Pyrexia.	

No other diseases were added to this list by local action.

The notifications of Tuberculosis are dealt with separately under that heading later in this report.

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1938.

	Males.	Fe- males.	Total.	Cases admit'd to Hosp'l.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	75	110	185	182*	2
Diphtheria	8	9	17	17	—
Malaria	1	—	1	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	—	3	3	2	—
Acute Primary Pneu- monia.	24	20	44	20	7
Acute Influenzal Pneu- monia.	3	7	10	—	3
Erysipelas	9	7	16	6	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	1	1	1	—
Dysentery	5	12	17	4	—
Totals	125	169	294	232	13

NOTE.—Duplicate notifications and cases in which the diagnosis was not confirmed are not included in the above table.

*There were 3 cases from the local General Hospital but these were Hailsham Rural District Council cases and not of Eastbourne persons.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Month.	Scarlet Fever.	Diph- theria.	Dysen- tery.	Ma- laria	Puer- peral Pyrexia.	Pneu- monia.	Inf. Pneu- monia.	Ery- sipelas	Oph- thal- mia Neona- torum	Total.
January ..	27	2	5	—	1	6	—	3	—	44
February ..	30	—	8	—	—	4	2	2	1	47
March ..	16	3	2	1	1	5	4	—	—	32
April ..	25	2	2	—	1	5	—	2	—	37
May ..	17	2	—	—	—	3	2	—	—	24
June ..	8	1	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	14
July ..	11	2	—	—	—	2	1	1	—	17
August ..	11	2	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	15
September ..	9	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	11
October ..	16	1	—	—	—	3	—	3	—	23
November ..	6	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	8
December ..	9	2	—	—	—	7	1	3	—	22
Total ..	185	17	17	1	3	44	10	16	1	294

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DEATHS ARRANGED ACCORDING TO AGE GROUPS.

Disease.	AGE GROUPS.													Totals.												
	0-1.		1-2.		2-3.		3-4.		4-5.		5-10.		10-15.		15-20.		20-35.		35-45.		45-65.		65 and over.		N.	D.
	N.	D.	N.	D.	N.	D.	N.	D.	N.	D.	N.	D.	N.	D.	N.	D.	N.	D.	N.	D.	N.	D.	N.	D.		
Scarlet Fever ..	1	—	2	—	11	—	7	—	13	1	85	—	32	—	8	—	15	—	8	1	3	—	—	—	185	2
Diphtheria ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	7	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	17	—
Dysentery ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	4	—	2	—	—	—	3	—	3	—	1	—	—	—	17	—
Malaria ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	—
Acute Primary Pneumonia ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	2	—	5	—	8	—	6	—	12	4	6	3	44	7
Acute Influenza ¹ Pneumonia ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	4	2	2	1	10	3
Erysipelas ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	6	1	7	—	16	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Totals ..	3	—	3	—	11	—	9	—	15	1	100	—	44	—	16	—	31	—	20	1	27	7	15	4	204	13

N. Notifications.

D. Deaths.

NOTE.—The above figures exclude duplicate notifications.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES—TEN YEARS' CASES.
NOTIFICATIONS AND DEATHS.

	Scarlet Fever.		Diphtheria.		Enteric Fever.	
	Notifi- cations.	Deaths.	Notifi- cations.	Deaths.	Notifi- cations.	Deaths.
1937 ..	123	—	14	1	—	—
1936 ..	23	—	13	—	1	—
1935 ..	30	—	20	—	1	—
1934 ..	63	—	26	2	1	—
1933 ..	78	—	23	2	3	1
1932 ..	36	—	38	—	3	2
1931 ..	26	—	40	2	4	—
1930 ..	48	—	47	4	2	—
1929 ..	84	—	138	10*	2	—
1928 ..	109	—	120	4	8	—
Totals	620	—	479	25	25	3

* Including 1 case notified in 1928 but who died in 1929.

Average for 10 years ..	62.0	—	47.9	2.5	2.5	0.3
Total for 1938	185	2	17	—	—	—

SCARLET FEVER.

One hundred and eighty-two local cases were isolated at the Hospital.

The epidemic, which commenced towards the end of 1937, continued during the early part of the year. The greatest number of cases occurring in any month was 30 in February, and the lowest 6 in November. One hundred and seventeen cases were between the ages of 5 and 15, and 108 of these were local elementary school children. All the elementary schools were affected, the Senior Schools being less so than the Infants' Departments.

I regret to record that, after many years, there were fatal cases, two in number. One was in the case of a man aged 36 with chronic kidney disease and who had septic pneumonia. The other was also a case of acute septicaemia.

The number of what might be termed "return" cases was nine, and this is unusually large. Of the elementary schools those chiefly affected were St. Andrew's, St. Philip's, St. Mary's Infant's, Christ Church and Hampden Park.

The cases may be classified as mild 64, severe 24, and average 82. Of the severe cases 6 had nephritis.

The cases of scarlet fever were from all parts of the Borough, but mainly from the east. No milk supply or laundry was particularly concerned.

DIPHThERIA.

There were 17 cases of this disease, all of which were isolated at the Isolation Hospital. Twelve cases were of children attending the Council schools.

In the last five years there have been 96 cases of diphtheria, or less than 20 per annum, and many of them in adults and visitors. The number of cases that might have been affected by local immunisation against diphtheria is, therefore, very few. There were no deaths.

In the absence of severe cases in children, propaganda in favour of immunisation would be a failure; hence only a few individual immunisations have been carried out, and those by private practitioners, who can obtain the vaccine from the Local Authority free in the case of the less well-to-do.

It has been found that small doses of antitoxin of from 4,000 to 16,000 units subcutaneously are as effective as larger doses given intravenously as far as the local type of diphtheria is concerned. This is obvious from the results obtained.

DYSENTERY.

The outbreak of Sonne Dysentery throughout the country continued in the early part of 1938, and 17 cases were notified in Eastbourne. There were no fatal cases. No association with any milk supply was ascertained.

ENTERIC FEVER.

No case occurred in 1938.

MALARIA.

One case was notified in 1938. A recurrent South African case.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

The causes of pyrexia in the 3 cases were as follows :—

Instrumental labour.

Septic (not puerperal fever).

Retained membranes.

The patients all recovered.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

One case was notified. This was a very bad case, and was sent in to the Special Ophthalmic Hospital of the London County Council. There remained a slight haze on part of the cornea but the pupils are clear and sight appears normal.

ERYSIPELAS.

There were 16 cases, one of which was fatal.

ANTHRAX.

A cow on a farm was affected with anthrax, and a cowman having suspicious sores was removed to hospital for observation. The man recovered and no evidence of anthrax infection was found.

THE NON-NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The most important of these are measles, whooping cough and infantile diarrhoea.

The Borough, as the following list shows, continued to be comparatively free from serious cases of these diseases.

The deaths registered from these diseases were as follows :—

Measles	..	..	..	Nil
Whooping cough	..	..	..	1
Diarrhoea	..	..	..	Nil

There were 3 cases of ringworm reported.

One death occurred from influenza.

No measles serum has been used by the department.

LABORATORY WORK.

WATER.

Analyses by Borough Analyst including bacteriological	7
Analyses by Water Company's Analyst	9
Weekly, by Medical Officer of Health (partial only) ..	52
Analyses by Clinical Research Association on behalf of the Local Authority and Water Company	14

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS IN MEDICAL
OFFICER OF HEALTH'S LABORATORY.

	Positive.	Negative.	Total.
Diphtheria, for Practitioners ..	39	399	438
Diphtheria, for Isolation Hospital	48	121	169
	—	—	—
	87	520	607
	—	—	—
	Positive.	Negative.	Total.
Tuberculosis, for Practitioners ..	33	144	177
Tuberculosis, for Hospital.. ..	47	34	81
	—	—	—
	80	178	258
	—	—	—

Total bacteriological examinations, 865.

Other bacteriological examinations carried out on behalf of the Local Authority were :—

(1) Examinations carried out for the Public Health Department—

(a) By Clinical Research Association—

Cultures for K.L.B.	2
Bacteriological examination of sausages.. .. .	1

(b) By Dr. A. G. Shera—

Bovine specimen	1
Swabs for K.L.B.	4
Bacteriological examination of pus (? Anthrax)	1

(2) Examinations carried out for the Municipal Maternity Home (9 Upperton Road)—

By Dr. A. G. Shera—

Slides for gonococcus	3
Urine	3

(3) Examinations carried out for the Infectious Diseases Hospital—

By Clinical Research Association—

Throat Cultures for Virulence test 4

By Dr. A. G. Shera—

Post Mortem 1

Specimens of Otorrhoea for Haemolytic streptococci 2

Throat swab for Haemolytic streptococci .. 1

(4) Examinations carried out for St. Mary's Hospital (in addition to many examinations by the staff)—

By Dr. A. G. Shera—

General pathological specimens 23

Cerebro-spinal fluid 4

Pus 11

Widal test 8

Urine 11

Wassermann tests 16

Cervical smear 6

Blood urea 2

Blood for culture 5

Swabs for Haemolytic streptococci 2

Pathological examinations in venereal disease are set forth in that section of this report.

Examinations for ringworm are made by the Medical Officer, and in 5 cases hairs were sent to Dr. Norman for examination by special light.

SCHOOL CLOSURE.

No schools were closed on account of infectious illness during 1938.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

MEDICAL ATTENDANT : DR. W. G. WILLOUGHBY.

MATRON : MISS D. SANDY.

HOSPITAL STATISTICS, 1938.

Disease.	In Hos- pital, Jan. 1, 1938.	Ad- mitted.	Dis- charged.	Died.	In Hos- pital, Dec. 31, 1938.
Scarlet fever	42	182	210	2	12
Diphtheria	4	17	19	—	2
Observation	—	7	6	—	1
Measles	—	10	10	—	—
Re-admission after scarlet fever	—	7	6	—	1
Do. after diphtheria ..	—	2	2	—	—
Diphtheria carriers ..	—	5	5	—	—
Scabies	—	2	2	—	—
Nil. baby with mother	—	1	1	—	—
Totals	46	233	261	2	16

There are 62 beds in 7 separate blocks. Fourteen is the largest number of beds in any block.

Of the 233 patients admitted, 97 were males and 136 females.

The number of admissions to the Hospital was 61 more than in the previous year. The admissions for each month of the year varied from 30 in January and February to 6 in November.

By arrangement with the Schoolmasters' and Schoolmistresses' Associations, cases from certain schools in the vicinity of Eastbourne are occasionally taken into Hospital.

All of the cases of scarlet fever and all the cases of diphtheria from the Borough were admitted to the Hospital.

The average length of time for local patients, who completed their stay in the Hospital in 1938 was as follows :—

Scarlet fever	40
Diphtheria	47
Scabies	5
Re-admission after scarlet fever ..	24

Re-admission after diphtheria	..	7
Measles	.. .. .	16
Observation	.. .. .	9
Diphtheria carriers	.. .. .	18

SUMMARY OF CASES ADMITTED FROM INSTITUTIONS, ETC.

St. Mary's Municipal Hospital and Children's Homes—

Measles	.. .. .	8
Diphtheria	.. .. .	3
Scarlet fever	.. .. .	5
Observation	.. .. .	1

Princess Alice Memorial Hospital—

Scarlet fever		6
---------------	---------	---

Two patients were admitted from local private schools.

The following are the particulars of the cases admitted during 1938 under the terms of the agreement with the Hailsham Rural District Council for the reception into the Isolation Hospital of cases of infectious illness from the surrounding Rural District, namely :—

Disease.	In Hos- pital, Jan. 1, 1938.	Ad- mitted.	Dis- charged.	Died.	In Hos- pital, Dec. 31, 1938.
Scarlet fever	8	48	56	—	—
Diphtheria	1	5	6	—	—
Observation for scarlet fever	—	2	2	—	—
Do. for diphtheria ..	—	2	2	—	—
Re-admission after scarlet fever	—	2	2	—	—
Measles	—	2	2	—	—
Totals	9	61	70	—	—

The accommodation of 62 beds was ample. A certain number of beds (26) are let off to the Schoolmasters' and Schoolmistresses' Associations, under conditions which were modified in 1936 by a reduction of the retaining fees.

Experience confirms the advisability of retaining scarlet fever patients for their own advantage for about five weeks.

The report shows that any case of infectious disease of any sort is now admitted if possible and advisable.

LANGNEY HOSPITAL.

Medical Officer : Dr. W. G. WILLOUGHBY.

This Small Pox Hospital has 18 beds. The last occasion on which it was used was in 1930.

ACACIA VILLA.

The isolation Cottage, which provided accommodation for persons whose houses were being disinfected, was so seldom used for the purpose of isolation that it is now used as a clinic centre for the maternity and child welfare and school medical departments. There are four beds for isolation if required. These were used in 1938 by five contacts from three families.

ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL.

A large amount of isolation in whooping cough and other forms of communicable disease other than scarlet fever and diphtheria is carried out at St. Mary's Hospital, especially when the requisite accommodation is not available at the Fever Hospital.

COST OF THE INFECTIOUS DISEASE HOSPITALS.

The total cost of the Infectious Diseases Hospital from 1st April, 1938 to 31st March, 1939, was £5,148, including loan charges, as compared with £5,160 in the previous year. The number of patient days was 9,194. Each patient cost £3. 1s. 2d. per week as compared with £2. 12s. per week in the previous year. Income was received from the Schools Associations £167, Hailsham Rural District Council retaining fee £150, in respect of patients from the rural area £710, and from other sources £103. The cost of food for patients and staff amounted to 7s. 0d. per head per week. The net cost was £4,018.

LANGNEY HOSPITAL.—Net cost, £182.

The total net cost on the rates for these hospitals was £4,200 in 1938.

NOTE. These estimated costs are calculated on actual expenditure up to near the end of the period and the Borough Treasurer's estimates for the remainder.

DISINFECTION.

The methods of disinfection employed are the same as in previous years.

For clothing, bedding, etc., superheated steam (temp. 260°) in a Washington Lyon disinfecting machine is used.

For articles that will not stand superheated steam, washing with Formalin or other disinfectant solution is employed.

For rooms and houses, fumigation with Formalin gas by means of various fumigators is sometimes used, but more often and especially in tuberculosis a sprayer is used for Formalin or other solution, such as Izal, McDougall's or Lawes' Fluid.

Re-papering, re-painting, distempering and much soap and water cleansing after spraying or fumigation is chiefly relied on as most gaseous and liquid disinfection is useless.

VACCINATION RETURN FOR EASTBOURNE DISTRICT, INCLUDING

RETURNS DUE TO MINISTRY OF HEALTH, FEBRUARY 14th, 1939, RESPECTING THE VACCINATION OF CHILDREN WHOSE BIRTHS WERE REGISTERED FROM 1st JANUARY TO 31st DECEMBER, 1937.

G. E. HODGES, *Vaccination Officer.*

Year.	Births.	Successful Certificates Registered.	Certificates of Insuscep- tibility Registered.	Had Small Pox.	Certificates of Exemption Registered.	Deaths under one year old.	Postponed by Medical Certificate.	Removed out of town and gone, no address.	Cases of Prosecu- tion under Sec. 31.	Un- accounted for.	Total number of Certificates of Succes- ful Primary Vaccinatio- at all ages received during each of last 15 years.	* 13 The number of certificates of con- scious objection actually received by Vaccination Officer irrespective of the dates of birth of the children to which they relate during year 1938 was 507
* 1	* 2	* 3	* 4	* 5	* 6	* 7	* 8	* 9 & 10.		* 11	* 12	
1924	684	141	1	—	456	31	4	24	—	27	204	
1925	691	130	1	—	469	30	2	21	—	38	152	
1926	763	137	2	—	527	22	5	38	—	32	148	
1927	683	128	1	—	464	20	3	43	—	24	130	
1928	764	129	2	—	550	24	—	30	—	29	142	
1929	689	139	1	1	455	22	7	41	—	23	136	
1930	711	123	1	—	492	23	1	43	—	28	276	
1931	707	119	2	—	501	19	3	37	—	26	130	
1932	757	141	—	—	524	21	2	42	—	27	150	
1933	706	137	1	—	481	24	1	12	—	21	137	
1934	702	131	1	—	493	18	1	42	—	14	134	
1935	663	103	2	—	506	13	3	28	—	8	125	
1936	722	114	1	—	508	24	3	35	—	7	141	
1937	702	127	—	—	483	23	2	47	—	20	151	
1938	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	139	

The numbers marked thus (*) refer to columns in Official Returns to Ministry of Health.

No re-vaccination was performed by the Medical Officer of Health in 1938 under the P. H. (Small Pox Prevention) Regulations, 1917.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

The treatment centre is at Avenue House and consists of a complete V.D. clinic with the most modern equipment. This modern centre was opened on 20th May, 1935.

The work at the former premises was commenced on 24th September, 1919.

Medical Officer : A. Geoffrey Shera, M.A., M.D., B.Ch. Camb., M.R.C.S. Eng., L.R.C.P. Lond.

Clinic hours : Men, 5 p.m., Wednesdays : Women and Children, 5 p.m., Mondays. Special times by arrangement. Irrigations daily.

SUMMARY, 1928-1938.

Year.	(1) Total Cases.	(2) Non V.D. Cases Included in (1)	(3) Attendances.		
			(a) For M.O.'s Attention.	(b) Irri- gation.	(c) Total.
1928	198	57	1295	1472	2767
1929	221	65	1369	1571	2940
1930	209	69	1012	1305	2317
1931	170	59	750	1165	1915
1932	127	39	705	1079	1784
1933	163	42	815	1137	1952
1934	177	58	1101	1910	3011
1935	186	57	1053	2426	3479
1936	179	57	917	2106	3023
1937	179	49	733	2086	2819
1938	174	56	919	2215	3134

The following table shows details of the number of cases treated during 1938, the figures in brackets being those for 1937 :—

CASES TREATED DURING 1938.

	Males.		Females.		Total.	
	Old Cases.	New Cases.	Old Cases.	New Cases.	Males.	Females.
						Grand Total.
Syphilis ..	18 (24)	8 (10)	16 (18)	10 (11)	26 (34)	52 (63)
Gonorrhoea ..	13 (11)	40 (40)	3 (4)	10 (12)	53 (51)	66 (67)
Soft Chancres ..	— (-)	— (-)	— (-)	— (-)	— (-)	— (-)
Other conditions ..	— (-)	20 (14)	— (-)	36 (35)	20 (14)	56 (49)
Total ..	31 (35)	68 (64)	19 (22)	56 (58)	99 (99)	174 (179)

Included in the above table are the following patients from outside the Borough, who attended for the first time :—

Syphilis	..	..	..	..	3
Gonorrhoea	..	..	..	..	2
Conditions other than venereal	..				2

Total attendances, 3,134 (2,819). Males, 2,536 (2,286). Females, 598 (533).

In-Patients.—One male patient was given in-patient treatment during the year, the number of patient days being 15.

Several patients were admitted under the Medical Officer of the clinic to the Princess Alice Memorial Hospital for spinal puncture as it is felt that to send a patient home after spinal puncture is to risk unpleasant and sometimes alarming after-effects. Tryparsamide has been used freely in cases of tabes dorsalis, where the condition of the eyes was satisfactory.

Pathological Work.—This was carried out at the Pathological Department, Princess Alice Hospital, by Dr. Shera.

The following examinations were made :—

		Number of Tests in respect of patients under care of :—		
Nature of Test.		Treatment Centres.	Hospitals and other Institutions.	Private Practitioners.
MICROSCOPICAL—				
For detection of spirochetes..		3	—	2
For detection of gonococci ..		186	35	57
Other tests for diagnosis or treatment of venereal disease		—	—	—
SERUM TESTS—				
For Wassermann reaction ..		138	121	48
(all quantitative)				
Other tests for syphilis :—				
Kahn test		138	121	48
For gonococcal infection ..		—	—	—
CEREBRO-SPINAL FLUID TESTS—				
Wassermann reaction ..		4	6	—
Cell count		4	6	—
Globulin		4	6	—
Colloidal		4	6	—
Others :—				
Kahn test		4	6	—
CULTURES		—	—	—
OTHER TESTS for diagnosis or treatment of venereal disease		—	—	—
Totals		485	307	155

The arsenobenzol compound, chiefly used in the treatment of syphilis was N.A.B. (0.15–75 grammes) and tryparsamide (2–3 grammes) but also sulfarsénol for neurological cases. The dosage was usually as follows :—Sulfarsénol, 2.5 to 60 centigrammes. In primary and secondary cases two full courses of 6.0 grammes Arsenic and 3.0 grammes Bismuth were given per 10-stone weight (or proportionately) consecutively or with three weeks' iodides between. In tertiary cases, two full courses and, if necessary, short courses of six Arsenical injections, etc., were given at three months' intervals with iodides. Thiostab has been used to neutralize toxic after-effects in arsenic-intolerant cases. The dosage of tryparsamide used was 2 or 3 grammes weekly.

Cases with a chronically refractory Wassermann reaction receive, after initial full courses, a half-course twice yearly as a prophylaxis against sequelae. As far as is known, no case treated at the clinic (unless defaulting) has developed late sequelae.

Bismuth is given concomitantly by intramuscular injection in doses ranging from 0.2 to 0.4 grammes as bisoxyl and has superseded mercury, which is now only occasionally given by mouth or by inunction to children when for some reason or other injections are contra-indicated. In such cases inunction is also used alternatively.

Sulphur-salvarsan compounds have been found to be more effective than any other compound of arsenic in ophthalmic cases.

The tests applied before the discharge of patients were as follows :—

In Gonorrhoea (male cases) : (1) Normal diet and alcohol ; (2) Prostatic provocative massage ; (3) Vaccine, 250 millions (ordinary emulsion) g.c. ; sometimes (2) and (3) are combined as one test ; (4) Bougies, and if thought advisable, a complement deviation test. If there is no discharge and threads, after all tests, the case is provisionally discharged, but not otherwise. If clear at the end of one month and six months, the case is finally discharged. In female cases, negative swabs from three sites on three

occasions of not less than fortnightly intervals, the last being preceded by a provocative vaccine (200 millions, o.e.) are required. Any local conditions such as bartholinitis must be cleared prior to such tests. Serological tests have been used occasionally as a further control and safeguard. The new drug sulphonamide (prontosil, streptocide) has recently been given a trial in acute and sub-acute gonorrhoea. It would appear to be extremely effective in shortening the treatment period in both sexes, provided secondary foci (*e.g.*, prostatitis, epididymitis, bartholinitis) are absent. It has to be given in relatively toxic doses (3–4 grammes daily) and for a strictly initial period. Toxic symptoms are liable to occur but are usually transient. Certain dietary restrictions and the avoidance of sulphur in any form are advisable. Its indiscriminate use or abuse is to be strongly deprecated, as likely to lead to dangerous toxic symptoms or only partial improvement, leaving residual infection.

Vaccines were found to be effective for curative purposes in gonorrhoeal rheumatism and cases with persistent symptoms and signs ; small doses are used for these, starting with 5 millions, then 10, 15, 20, 25 and 30 millions of ordinary g.c. stock polyvalent vaccine. Very satisfactory results have been obtained in clearing up these cases ; and with sulphostab for epididymitis.

The infrequency of stricture is very noticeable these days as compared with 10 years ago, and this may be due to the efficiency of modern treatment in gonorrhoea in its earlier stages. Stricture is very rare in this clinic. No case has been observed in the last year.

There is a welcome decreasing tendency for women to avoid investigation at a V.D. Clinic.

There is an unfortunate tendency for acute gonorrhoea cases to default before undergoing tests of cure and completing their treatment. Special notices are supplied to patients urging them not to do this, and practitioners should, whenever possible, advise such patients strongly to this end. This tendency is a gradually decreasing one at the moment and relapses are not very common.

Wassermann and Kahn tests are made in all gonorrhoea cases both at the beginning and end of treatment.

In syphilis cases three-monthly Wassermann tests for two years after the second course are made with a provocative dose at the end of the first and second year.

Whenever possible, the cerebro-spinal fluid has been tested in chronically positive reactors.

The value of this has been illustrated in the case of the wife of a man who developed acute G.P.I. where spinal fluid showed definite parietic findings, although no symptoms had appeared at this time. She was treated in the Princess Alice Hospital with intraspinal salvarsanized serum, and later at the Clinic with tryparsamide and bismuth. She now has a normal blood and spinal fluid, and is mentally sound and has remained so.

It is thus possible to prevent the onset of general paralysis by timely diagnosis and treatment. This fact is of first importance from the Public Health aspect, both sociologically and financially, not to mention the acute and prolonged suffering avoided.

During the year arrangements have been continued for irrigation when required and are constantly in use (see attendances).

Notices as to free treatment are posted in the various public lavatories, etc.

The pathological examinations have been through the Council's Medical Officer in 485 cases and in 462 instances at the request of private practitioners, and for Hospitals, etc.

No action has been taken under the Venereal Disease Act, 1917.

The department dispenses most of its own medicines instead of sending out prescriptions.

Dr. Shera, whose report this is as regards the clinic, praises the work of the nurse (Miss R. Clark) and that of the male attendant (Mr. Tomsett).

The number of cases treated in 1938 was approximately the same as in 1937. Variations are likely to occur from year to year.

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE.

The Public Assistance duties of the Council undertaken through the Public Health Department, include work in connection with :—

1. General assistance in illness and disability.
2. St. Mary's Hospital.
3. Cottage Homes for children.
4. Boarded-out children.
5. Children in institutions and homes.
6. Adults in institutions.
7. Assistance to the blind and their dependents.
8. Assistance in mental deficiency cases.

When the Council took over the duties of the "Guardians" it was arranged to transfer all assistance possible from the Poor Law. The last six of the above items were so transferred. Accounts of the work in 1938 in connection with maternity and child welfare, blind persons and mental treatment will be found in the appropriate sections of this report. The Municipal Hospital has not been transferred from the Poor Law, but from April 1st, 1937, it has been administered under Part IV. of the Poor Law Order, 1930, as an establishment separate from the Institution.

GENERAL ASSISTANCE.

In accordance with the Council's administrative scheme under the Local Government Act, 1929, an index register has been kept of all persons who have received assistance from any Committee or Sub-Committee of the Council. A card index of all persons receiving public assistance through the Public Health Department has been duly kept and a weekly return rendered of all those receiving such assistance. Previously each weekly return was a complete record of all persons receiving assistance through this department, but during 1938 continuing cases such as institutional treatment and weekly supplies of milk were omitted from the returns and only the dates of admission and discharge and commencement and termination were

rendered. This accounts for the total entries sent to the Public Assistance Officer being reduced to *9,611, or an average of *184.8 weekly. The number of individual persons assisted during the year was *1,339, and the number of entries for recording on the card index of this department as well as the central index was 3,670. The principal entries related to cases receiving public assistance in the form of institutional treatment under the following headings : Mental Defectives, Maternity and Child Welfare, Tuberculosis, Orthopaedic cases and Infectious Diseases ; to relief in cash and in the form of supplies under the Blind Persons Act ; supplies of new milk, dried foods, etc., in cases of Maternity and Tuberculosis ; and matters pertaining to boarded-out children.

The arrangements for treatment of persons for illnesses in their own homes continues under the Public Assistance Committee as it was carried out under the Guardians. The Borough is divided into two areas, each having a part-time Medical Officer.

ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL.

This hospital was transferred to the Council on April 1st, 1930.

It remains at present under the Poor Law and has not been "appropriated," but a great improvement was effected on April 1st, 1937, when administration under Part IV. of the Poor Law Order, 1930, was commenced.

The Hospital has been a full training school for nurses since July 1st, 1933. Previously it was a partial training school and we lost our nurses just when they had been brought on to be useful to the Hospital.

During 1938, eleven probationer nurses sat for the final examination of the General Nursing Council. They were all successful in passing, and eight are now acting as Staff Nurses at the Hospital. Five probationer nurses sat for their preliminary examination during the year and all were successful in passing.

*1937—18111, 348 and 1090 respectively.

In my last report I submitted in detail a list of requirements, drawn up by the Medical Superintendent and myself, to bring up the efficiency of the Hospital. One of the very important items was the reconstruction of the Nurses' Home, and this improvement is in progress. A second house in Vicarage Road was acquired for housing nurses.

When the Hospital was transferred to the Local Authority on the 1st April, 1930, the number of beds totalled 191. Since then, by alterations to the existing accommodation, the number of beds has been increased to 252, and in 1937, owing to pressure on the number of available male beds a smoking room was converted into a small ward temporarily. This temporary arrangement has had to be made practically permanent.

The number of beds provided is as follows :—

For men	..	..	..	..	..	56*
For women	..	..	..	..	..	102*
For maternity cases	..	..	..	..	..	6
For children	..	..	..	..	..	42
For general infirm—Males	..	..	..	..	..	17
				Females	..	27
					—	44
For isolation and cot in Maternity Unit	..	..	..	..	..	2
Cots in Maternity Ward	..	..	..	..	..	6
						—
Total	..	..	..	..	..	258
						—

* These totals include two beds for males and two for females in outside shelters.

Twelve beds are retained for cases belonging to the County of East Sussex, part of which adjoining Eastbourne formed a portion of the defunct "Eastbourne Union."

Arrangements exist with the County Authority of East Sussex to take additional county cases, in excess of the reservation for 12 cases, when accommodation is available.

The staff of the Hospital at the end of 1938 was as follows :—Medical Superintendent.—Dr. H. R. McAleenan.

Deputy Medical Superintendent.—Dr. E. Bramley.

Consulting Surgeon.—Mr. E. A. Fiddian.

Consulting Radiologist.—Dr. G. P. Norman.
 House Surgeon.—Dr. J. Garden.
 Matron.—Miss M. Letheren.
 Deputy-Matron and Home Sister.—1.
 Sister Tutor.—1.
 Night Sister.—1.
 Massage Sister.—1 (non-resident).
 Ward Sisters.—7 (including 1 temporary).
 Staff Nurses.—8.
 Trained Male Nurse.—1.
 Probationers.—27.
 Assistant Nurses (Temporary).—8.
 Nurse Attendants (Infirm Ward).—1.
 Male Attendant.—1.

Owing to scarcity of nurses we were, at the end of 1938, twelve short of the establishment of permanent staff as regards probationers.

A Resident House Surgeon was first appointed to the staff on the 7th January, 1935.

The nursing establishment is insufficient to allow for emergencies, sickness and holidays, and temporary nurses were constantly employed in 1938.

The following statistics are prepared from weekly returns of admissions and discharges supplied by the institution staff. They relate to St. Mary's Hospital for the period 1st January to 31st December, 1938, namely :—

TOTAL CASES.

	Males.	Fe- males.	Chil- dren.	Total.
In Hospital on 31st December, 1937	64	118	30	212
Admissions	389	658	374	1421
Discharges	279	542	356	1177
Deaths	111	120	27	258
Remaining in Hospital on 31st December, 1938	63	114	21	198

The following table relates to cases belonging to the County and are included in the total cases in the above table :—

	Males.	Fe- males.	Chil- dren.	Total.
In Hospital on 31st December, 1937	13	11	2	26
Admissions	36	99	55	190
Discharges	31	84	52	167
Deaths	13	15	4	32
Remaining in Hospital on 31st December, 1938	5	11	1	17

From the 1st January to 31st December, 1938, there were 74,778 patient days for the total cases, made up as follows :—

	Males.	Fe- males.	Chil- dren.	Total.
Number of patient days for patients remaining in the Hospital on 31st December, 1938	10594	20588	794	31976
Discharges	8040	16178	10436	34654
Deaths	4250	3557	341	8148
Totals	22884	40323	11571	74778

The average stay of the 1,435 patients who were discharged or died during the period 1st January to 31st December, 1938, was 29.8 days.

The number of patient days for the cases belonging to the county, included in the above table, are as follows :—

	Males.	Fe- males.	Chil- dren.	Total.
Number of patient days for patients remaining in the Hospital on 31st December, 1938	959	1252	8	2219
Discharges	1515	2171	1162	4848
Deaths	241	287	109	637
Totals	2715	3710	1279	7704

The average stay of the 199 patients from the County who were discharged or died during the period 1st January to 31st December, 1938, was 27.6 days.

The total number of days spent in the hospital in 1938 by patients belonging to the County was 7,704, or equivalent to a stay of 21.1 patients for the whole year.

Of the patients remaining in the hospital on 31st December, 1938, two were in the hospital when it was transferred to the Local Authority on the 1st April, 1930. In addition to these, one was admitted during 1930, one during 1931, one during 1933, 12 during 1934, 6 during 1935, 15 during 1936 and 19 during 1937, making a total of 57 or 29 per cent. who had made a stay of more than 12 months.

The number of days spent in the hospital during 1938 was equivalent to the following beds being occupied for a full year, viz. :—

Males	..	..	..	..	62.7
Females	..	..	..	..	110.4
Children	..	..	..	..	31.7
Total	..	..	..	..	204.8

These figures include those “infirm” inmates who have to receive some nursing and medical attendance regularly.

The highest number of patients in the hospital during the year was 239 on March 15th, and the lowest 169 on October 5th. This low figure was due to the “crisis.” The patients were reduced from 217 on September 22nd to 169 on October 5th, to make room, if necessary, for transfers from London hospitals.

The following table shows the classification of the accommodation for the sick and the number of beds occupied on the 31st December, 1938.

B E D S .

Classification of Wards.	Number of Wards.	Men.		Women.		Children (under 16 years of age).		Total.	
		Provided	Occupied	Provided	Occupied	Provided	Occupied	Provided	Occupied
Medical, Surgical and Chronic Sick.	17	56	53 ^a	102	88 ^b	—	—	158	141
Children ..	6	—	—	—	—	42	21 ^c	42	21
Maternity ..	1	—	—	6	5 ^d	—	—	6	5
General Infirmary—									
Females ..	2	—	—	27	21	—	—	27	21
Males ..	1	17	10 ^e	—	—	—	—	17	10
Total ..	27	73	63	135	114	42	21	250	198

^a This total includes 4 cases chargeable to the County.

^b This total includes 8 cases chargeable to the County.

^c This total includes 1 cases chargeable to the County.

^d This total includes 2 cases chargeable to the County.

^e This total includes 1 case chargeable to the County.

Total cases, 16.

NOTE.—Six infant cots in the Maternity Unit are not included in the above figures. One labour bed and one isolation bed in the Maternity Unit are also not included in the above number of beds.

IN-PATIENTS.

1. Total number of admissions, 1,421 (including infants born in the hospital).
2. Number of women confined in the hospital, 96.
3. Number of live births, 87 (including 4 cases of twins).
4. Number of still births, 13.
5. Number of deaths among the newly-born (*i.e.*, under four weeks of age), 5.
6. Total number of deaths among children under one year, 21.
7. Number of maternal deaths among women admitted to hospital for confinement, 2.
8. Total number of deaths, 258.
9. Number of Patients discharged, 1,177.
10. Average duration of stay of patients included in 8 and 9 above, 29.8 days.
11. Duration of stay of patients included in 8 and 9 above. Number of cases whose total stay was for the following periods :—

	DISCHARGES.			DEATHS.			Total
	M.	F.	C.	M.	F.	C.	
(a) Four weeks or less ..	185	375	246	80	89	23	998
(b) Exceeding 4 weeks, but under 13 weeks.	73	136	96	17	21	3	346
(c) Exceeding 13 weeks..	21	31	14	14	10	1	91
Totals	279	542	356	111	120	27	1435

12. Number of beds (excluding cots in maternity ward) occupied—(a) average during the year, 202.9; (b) highest, 239 on 15th March, 1938; (c) lowest, 169 on 5th October, 1938.
13. Number of surgical operations under general anaesthetic, excluding dental operation, 192.
14. Number of abdominal sections, 81.

OUT-PATIENTS.

1. Nature and scope of the out-patient provision for continuation of treatment, emergency treatment, consultations or otherwise :—

General out-patient provision does not exist. Exceptions are as follows :—

- (a) Continuation of such treatment as massage, electrical and light. Fomentations.
 - (b) Occasional emergency such as an accident.
 - (c) Children from the Cottage Homes, Casuals and Institution cases, also recurrent patient treatment.
2. Total number of persons seen in the out-patient department, 258.
 3. Number of these persons who were admitted to in-patient treatment in the hospital, 21.
 4. Number of these persons who had received in-patient treatment in the hospital, 37.
 5. Total number of attendances in the out-patient department, 3,585.
 6. Total number of expectant mothers seen at Ante-Natal Clinic and the total number of attendances : Mothers, 71 ; attendances, 275.

The fixed establishment of nurses was unable to cope with the duties during the year and although temporary nurses were engaged, the arrangements for reduction of hours worked could not be fully made.

The average length of stay of patients decreased to 29.8 days from 33.

There were 6 more confinements than in 1937.

CLASSIFICATION OF IN-PATIENTS WHO WERE DISCHARGED FROM OR DIED IN THE HOSPITAL DURING THE PERIOD 1st JAN. to 31st DEC., 1938, TOGETHER WITH THE NO. OF PATIENT DAYS.

	DISCHARGES.						DEATHS.					
	Patients.			Patient Days.			Patients.			Patient Days.		
	M.	F.	C.	M.	F.	C.	M.	F.	C.	M.	F.	C.
A. Acute Infectious Disease ..	2	3	16	16	47	408	—	—	—	—	—	—
B. Influenza ..	3	1	—	29	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
C. Tuberculosis—												
Pulmonary ..	9	5	—	140	73	—	—	—	1	124	—	10
Non-Pulmonary ..	2	—	2	301	—	181	—	1	3	—	6	34
D. Malignant Disease ..	4	11	—	242	484	—	26	19	—	1368	886	—
E. Rheumatism—												
1. Acute Rheumatism ..	2	1	3	102	71	469	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Non-articular Manifestations ..	3	15	—	68	899	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Chronic Arthritis ..	2	17	—	35	638	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
F. Venereal Disease ..	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
G. Puerperal Pyrexia—												
(a) Women Confined in the Hospital ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Other Cases ..	—	2	—	—	98	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
H. Other Diseases and Accidents connected with Pregnancy and Child-birth ..	—	44	—	—	717	—	—	2	—	—	9	—
I. Mental Diseases—												
(a) Senile Dementia ..	8	35	1	153	147	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Other ..	1	—	—	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
J. Senile Decay ..	26	21	15	545	770	226	—	3	—	—	5	—
K. Accidental Injury and Violence ..	26	48	31	542	1622	951	3	4	1	27	297	31
L. Disease of the Nervous System and Sense Organs ..	31	33	38	990	984	1074	11	11	9	408	420	78
M. Disease of the Respiratory System ..	39	49	2	1445	2626	110	53	65	—	1842	1832	—
N. Disease of the Circulatory System ..	47	63	37	719	1270	871	5	8	4	29	41	125
O. Disease of the Digestive System ..	29	54	25	1242	1330	637	7	4	—	385	35	—
P. Disease of the Genito-Urinary System ..	12	15	37	326	459	1450	1	—	—	54	—	—
Q. Disease of the Skin ..	32	31	47	1124	1006	1596	1	3	9	13	26	63
R. Other Diseases ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
S. Mothers and Infants discharged from Maternity Wards and not included in above figures—												
Mothers ..	—	90	—	—	2818	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Infants ..	—	77	—	—	1865	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
T. Any persons not falling under any of above headings ..	—	3	25	—	34	594	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ..	279	542	356	8040	16178	10436	111	120	27	4250	3557	341

THE FOLLOWING TABLE RELATES TO THE CASES BELONGING TO THE COUNTY WHICH ARE INCLUDED IN THE TOTAL CASES IN THE TABLE IMMEDIATELY ABOVE.

	DISCHARGES.						DEATHS.		
	Patients.			Patient Days.			Patients.		
	M.	F.	C.	M.	F.	C.	M.	F.	C.
A. Acute Infectious Disease	—	1	2	—	17	68	—	—	—
C. Tuberculosis—									
Pulmonary	1	—	—	32	—	—	—	—	—
D. Malignant Disease	—	3	—	—	143	—	—	—	—
E. Rheumatism—									
(3) Chronic Arthritis	1	2	—	34	39	—	—	—	—
G. Puerperal Pyrexia—									
(b) Other Cases	—	1	—	—	26	—	—	—	—
H. Other Diseases and Accidents connected with Pregnancy and Child-birth	—	15	—	—	218	—	—	—	—
K. Accidental Injury and Violence	3	3	—	125	221	—	—	1	—
L. Diseases of the Nervous System and Sense Organs	—	2	1	—	157	169	—	—	—
M. Disease of the Respiratory System	2	3	1	153	55	14	1	2	1
N. Disease of the Circulatory System	10	1	—	549	11	—	7	7	—
O. Disease of the Digestive System	6	5	5	52	83	155	2	3	1
P. Disease of the Genito-Urinary System	3	6	1	190	178	24	—	—	—
Q. Disease of the Skin	1	—	2	45	—	23	—	—	—
R. Other Diseases	4	1	1	335	14	44	—	1	2
S. Mothers and Infants discharged from Maternity Wards and not included in above figures—									
Mothers	—	39	—	—	991	—	—	—	—
Infants	—	—	31	—	—	506	—	—	—
T. Any persons not falling under any of the above headings	—	2	8	—	18	159	—	—	—
Totals	31	84	52	1515	2171	1162	13	15	4
							241	287	109

ST. MARY'S INSTITUTION AND HOSPITAL.

NIGHT OF DECEMBER 31ST, 1938.

Institution.

				Local cases.	County cases.	Total.
Number of able-bodied inmates—						
Males	..	..	..	46	3	49
Females	..	..	..	13	2	15
Children	..	..	..	—	—	—
Number of infirm (not in hospital group)—						
Males	..	..	..	—	—	—
Females	..	..	..	—	—	—
				—	—	—
				59	5	64
				—	—	—

Hospital.

				Local cases.	County cases.	Total.
Number of inmates—patients—						
Males	..	..	..	58	5	63
Females	..	..	..	104	10	114
Children (over 3)	..	..	..	8	—	8
Children (under 3)	..	..	..	12	1	13
Number of inmates—infirm—						
Males	..	..	..	—	—	—
Females	..	..	..	—	—	—
				—	—	—
				182	16	198
				—	—	—

Total, 262 (including 16 county cases).

SALARIED STAFF (FULL-TIME).

		Institution. only.	Hospital only.	Jointly Hospital and Institution.
Male (resident)	..	—	—	4
Male (non-resident)	..	1	2	17
Female (resident)	..	2	60	3
Female (non-resident)		2	31	14

SALARIED STAFF (PART-TIME).

		Institution only.	Hospital only.	Jointly Hospital and Institution.
Male (resident)	..	—	—	—
Male (non-resident)	..	1	—	3
Female (resident)	..	—	—	—
Female (non-resident)		—	1	3

INMATE STAFF.

		Institution. only.	Hospital only.	Jointly Hospital and Institution.
Male		—	—	—
Female		—	—	—

There is no accommodation at the Institution for hospital serving staff.

OTHER INSTITUTIONAL TREATMENT.—ADULTS.

The following adult cases received institutional treatment during 1938, viz. :—

Name of Institution.	In-patients at end of 1937.		Admitted during 1938.		Receiving treatment at end of 1938.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Epileptic Col'ny, Chalfont	1	—	1	—	2	—
Meath Home for Epileptics Godalming.	—	1	—	1	—	1
David Lewis Colony, Sandle Bridge.	—	1	—	—	—	1
Royal Nat. Orthopaedic Hospital, Stanmore.	—	—	2	3	—	—
Home of Compassion, Thames Ditton.	—	1	—	—	—	—
Nazareth House, Bexhill-on-Sea.	—	1	—	—	—	—
St. Mary's Home, Oxford	—	1	—	—	—	—
St. Elizabeth's Home, Finchley.	—	1	—	—	—	1
Marie Curie Hospital, London, N.W.3.	—	1	—	—	—	—
Totals	1	7	3	4	2	3

TUBERCULOSIS.

The number of cases of this disease in Eastbourne on the books at the close of 1938 was 198. Of these, 145 were pulmonary cases and 53 non-pulmonary cases, 32 fewer of the former than at the end of 1937 and 2 less of the latter.

There was thus a decrease of 34 in the number of cases on the register in 1938. In the last ten years the reduction has been nearly 33 per cent.

In tables later in the report the 77 notifications which were received during 1938 are corrected by the elimination of four duplicate notifications, five cases where diagnosis was not confirmed and 24 transfers from other districts. There were nine more transfers than in 1937. In 9 cases the first notification received was after the death of the patient.

In the 42 new cases there was definite family history of the disease in 6 pulmonary and 1 non-pulmonary cases. In 9 pulmonary and 1 non-pulmonary cases there was no family history of tuberculosis. In the other cases no definite history could be obtained.

The very free provision of assistance in Eastbourne of dispensary, sanatorium and hospital facilities, gives every inducement to tuberculous persons to make their condition known. The provision of a special hospital in 1914 has been most useful.

The 42 deaths from this disease are tabled in the report. The number of deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis (34) was two above the average (32) of the previous ten years. The deaths from non-pulmonary tuberculosis numbered 8, and this number was the same as the average of the previous ten years.

During 1938, 40 X-ray examinations of tuberculous and doubtful tuberculous patients were made through the department and others privately and through the hospitals. As regards contacts, special efforts were made to induce them to attend for examination. In the case of children, little

difficulty has ever been experienced, but in the case of adults the efforts were again not very successful. Altogether 2 adults and 83 children contacts attended the Clinic and more were examined by their own medical men, some of whom prefer to examine their patients and contacts personally. There are still cases where no persuasion can obtain proper isolation and others where housing difficulty does not permit. There was a decrease of 50 in the number of specimens of sputum sent for examination.

The death-rate from pulmonary tuberculosis for the year 1938 was 0.62 per 1,000.

Cases shown as “new” cases in this report are cases who have never been notified before in any district.

NOTIFICATIONS DURING 1938.

Seventy-seven notifications were received, as follows :—

	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Diagnosis not confirmed	1	3	1	—
Arrested cases-relapsed	1	1	—	—
Duplicate Notifications	2	1	1	—
Transfers from other Districts—				
By Practitioners	5	5	—	1
By Medical Officers of Health and T.B. Officers.	7	4	2	—
Inwards Transferable Deaths ..	1	—	1	—
Local Registrar—Death Returns ..	3	2	1	—
Posthumous Notification	1	—	—	—
New Cases—By Practitioners ..	12	9	6	6
Totals	33	25	12	7

The number of notifications in recent years after exclusion of duplicates and cases in which the diagnosis was not confirmed were as follows :—

Year.	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.
1938 ..	28	14
1937 ..	39	15
1936 ..	40	16
1935 ..	43	20
1934 ..	56	17
1933 ..	44	14
1932 ..	37	21
1931 ..	41	15
1930 ..	49	16
1929 ..	47	21

Excluding the duplicates and notifications of cases transferred from other districts which had been previously notified, the sexes and ages of the 42 new cases not previously notified were as follows :—

(a) PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS, 28.

Ages.			Males.	Females.	Total.
Under 1 year	..	..	1	—	1
1—5	..	..	—	—	—
5—10	..	..	—	—	—
10—15	..	..	—	1	1
15—20	..	..	—	—	—
20—25	..	..	2	3	5
25—35	..	..	3	2	5
35—45	..	..	3	2	5
45—55	..	..	2	3	5
55—65	..	..	3	—	3
65 and over	..	..	3	—	3
Totals ..			17	11	28

(b) NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS, 14.

Ages.			Males.	Females.	Total.
Under 1	..	..	—	—	—
1—5	..	..	2	1	3
5—10	..	..	1	1	2
10—15	..	..	2	1	3
15—20	..	..	1	—	1
20—25	..	..	—	—	—
25—35	..	..	—	1	1
35—45	..	..	1	—	1
45—55	..	..	—	1	1
55—65	..	..	—	1	1
65 and over	..	..	1	—	1
Totals ..			8	6	14

The following are particulars of cases transferred from other districts and notified during the year either by local practitioners or Medical Officers of Health, viz. :—

Ages.			Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Total.
			Males.	Females	Males.	Females	
15—20	..	..	1	2	2	—	5
20—25	..	..	3	—	—	—	3
25—35	..	..	2	2	—	—	4
35—45	..	..	2	2	—	1	5
45—55	..	..	2	2	—	—	4
55—65	..	..	2	1	—	—	3
65 and over	..	..	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ..			12	9	2	1	24

In the early days of notification there were many deaths from tuberculosis recorded where the cases had not been notified during life. In 1938, excluding Eastbourne cases dying in institutions away from the Borough and temporary residents, there were six instances in which notification was not recorded before death. These were in respect of five pulmonary cases and one non-pulmonary case. In three of the Pulmonary cases, diagnosis was made after post-mortem examinations.

Three of the pulmonary cases were fatal within three months of notification, viz. :—

Within one month	..	..	—
Within two months	..	..	2
Within three months	..	..	1

NON-PULMONARY CASES (New cases, 14).

Localization of disease :—

Males—

Right shoulder	..	..	..	1	age 10.
Right groin	..	..	..	1	age 44.
Peritoneum	..	..	..	1	age 16.
Tubercular meningitis	..	..	..	3	ages 2, 4, 12.
Cervical glands	..	..	..	1	age 6.
Spine	..	..	..	1	age 67.
				—	
Total	..	..	..	8	
				—	

Females—

Cervical glands	..	..	..	1	age 8.
Tubercular meningitis	..	..	..	1	age 2.
Spine	..	..	..	1	age 11.
Kidneys	..	..	..	1	age 25.
Tuberculoma of brain	..	..	..	1	age 49.
T.B. abscess of left breast	..	..	..	1	age 62.
				—	
Total	..	..	..	6	
				—	

NON-PULMONARY CASES.

(Transferred from other districts, 4 cases).

Localization of disease :—

<i>Males</i> —Peritoneum	..	..	2	ages 16, 16.
Cervical glands	..	..	1	age 17.
			—	
Total	..	..	3	
			—	

Female—Cervical glands 1 age 42.POSITION OF THE BOROUGH AS REGARDS TUBERCULOSIS AT
THE END OF 1938.

Cases at end of 1937	..	..	..	..	232
<i>Add</i> —1. Notifications in 1938	..	..			77
<i>Less</i> —Duplicates	..	..	..	4	
Diagnosis not confirmed	..			5	
Transfers from other areas	..			24	
Relapsed cases	..	..		2	
				—	35
Total new cases not previously notified	..				42
2. Transferred from other areas :—					
(1) Notified by practitioners	..	..		11	
(2) Otherwise	..	..	..	13	
				—	24
3. Arrested cases relapsed	..	..	..	2	
<i>Deduct</i> —					—
1. Deaths—					300
Residents—					
(a) Tuberculosis..	..		42		
(b) Other causes	..		6		
			—	48	
Visitors	..	..	..	2	
				—	50
2. Cases left the town	..	..	..	25	
3. Cases in which disease was arrested	..			22	
4. Cases lost sight of	..	..	..	5	
				—	102
Total cases at end of 1938	..	..			198

The following is a summary of the above cases :—

	MALES.			FEMALES.		Total.
	In-sured.	Non-in-sured.	Ex-ser. (Ad-mitted).	In-sured.	Non-in-sured.	
Pulmonary ..	57	14	10	27	37	145
Non-Pulmonary	10	16	—	5	22	53
Total	67	30	10	32	59	198

The following are particulars of cases lost sight of and left the town during 1938 :—

	MALES.			FEMALES.		Total.
	In-sured.	Non-in-sured.	Ex-ser. (Ad-mitted).	In-sured.	Non-in-sured.	
Notified Cases—						
Pulmonary ..	8	6	—	3	8	25
Non-Pulmonary ..	1	2	—	1	1	5
Total	9	8	—	4	9	30

ARREST OF DISEASE.

The following is a summary of the 22 cases which have been removed from the register of notifications during 1938, as cases in which the disease has been arrested, and also 5 cases in which diagnosis was not confirmed :—

	MALES.			FEMALES.		Total.
	In-sured.	Non-in-sured.	Ex-ser. (Ad-mitted).	In-sured.	Non-in-sured.	
Notified Cases :—						
Pulmonary ..	6	1	3	4	2	16
Non-Pulmonary ..	2	3	—	—	6	11
Total	8	4	3	4	8	27

AFTER HISTORY OF CASES NOTIFIED DURING 1938.

Left the town	..	..	..	..	8
Fatal	..	..	..	..	17
Duplicate notications	..	..	..	..	4
Died of other diseases	..	..	..	..	1
Diagnosis not confirmed	..	..	..	..	5
Still on the register	..	..	..	..	40
Total notifications	..	..	..	..	75

RESULT AS TO CASES NOTIFIED FROM THE 1ST JANUARY,
1912, TO THE 31ST DECEMBER, 1938.

Left the town	..	..	..	..	871
*Fatal	..	..	..	..	1201
Duplicate notifications	..	..	..	..	157
Died of other diseases	..	..	..	..	68
Disease arrested, and cases in which diagnosis was not confirmed	..	..	..	..	504
Not traceable	..	..	..	..	102
Still on the register	..	..	..	..	198
Total notifications	..	..	..	..	3101

* NOTE.—Some of the cases marked in the register as "Fatal" have died from diseases other than Tuberculosis.

DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS.

The following are particulars of the deaths from tuberculosis (excluding visitors) during 1938 :—

	MALES.			FEMALES.		Total.
	In-sured.	Non-in-sured.	Ex-ser. (Ad-mitted).	In-sured.	Non-in-sured.	
Pulmonary ..	19	1	—	6	8	34
Non-Pulmonary	1	5	—	—	2	8
Total	20	6	—	6	10	42

The following are particulars of the sexes and ages of Eastbourne persons who died from tuberculosis during 1938, viz. :

Age Period.			Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
			Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Under 1	..	..	1	—	—	—
1-5	..	..	—	—	2	1
5-10	..	..	—	—	—	—
10-15	..	..	—	—	1	—
15-20	..	..	—	—	—	—
20-25	..	..	1	4	—	—
25-35	..	..	6	1	—	—
35-45	..	..	3	4	1	—
45-55	..	..	2	3	1	1
55-65	..	..	6	2	—	—
65 and over	..	..	1	—	1	—
Totals	..	..	20	14	6	2

Excluding the deaths of two non-residents and including the deaths from tuberculosis of Eastbourne persons temporarily out of the Borough, there was a total of 42 deaths—34 from pulmonary tuberculosis (20 males and 14 females) and 8 from non-pulmonary tuberculosis (6 males and 2 females). The death-rates were as follows :—

Pulmonary tuberculosis .. 0.62 per 1,000.

Non-pulmonary tuberculosis.. 0.12 per 1,000.

All forms of tuberculosis .. 0.74 per 1,000.

The deaths in the last ten years have been as follows :—

	1938	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933	1932	1931	1930	1929
Pulmonary	34	24	33	22	*43	35	34	26	30	31
Other forms	8	7	6	6	3	6	7	11	5	7
Total	42	31	39	28	46	41	41	37	35	38

* One of these deaths was not registered until 1935.

In accordance with Circular 648 of the Ministry of Health, the following particulars of new cases of tuberculosis and of deaths from the disease in the area, whether of Eastbourne persons or not, during 1938, are given, viz. :—

Age Period.	New Cases 42.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	Males.	Fe-males.	Males.	Fe-males.	Males.	Fe-males.	Males.	Fe-males.
Under 1 ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
1-5 ..	—	—	2	1	—	—	2	1
5-10 ..	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
10-15 ..	—	1	2	1	—	—	1	—
15-20 ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
20-25 ..	2	3	—	—	2a	4	—	—
25-35 ..	3	2	—	1	6	1	—	—
35-45 ..	3	2	1	—	3	4	1	—
45-55 ..	2	3	—	1	2	3	1	1
55-65 ..	3	—	—	1	6	2	—	—
65 & over	3	—	1	—	2a	—	1	—
Totals ..	17	11	8	6	22	14	6	2

(a) Each of these figures includes 1 visitor (Total—2 visitors).

BACTERIOLOGICAL WORK.

In the laboratory 258 examinations of sputum were made :—

	Positive.	Negative.	Total.
For practitioners and dispensary patients	33	144	177
For hospital	47	34	81
	—	—	—
	80	178	258
	—	—	—

INSTITUTIONAL TREATMENT.

GILDREDGE HOSPITAL.

Administrative Medical Officer : Dr. W. G. Willoughby.

Clinical Medical Officer : Dr. D. G. Churcher.

Matron : Miss A. Strugnell.

Owing to the possession by the Council of their own Tuberculosis Hospital and the use temporarily of St. Mary's Hospital in some cases, there has been again practically no waiting for institutional treatment throughout 1938. There have been vacant beds chiefly for females at the Gildredge Hospital during the year. The male beds were occupied to the extent of 83.7 per cent., but the female beds only to the extent of 76.6 per cent.

(a) GILDREDGE HOSPITAL. STATISTICS, 1938.

	MALES.			FEMALES.		Total.
	In-sured.	Non-in-sured.	Ex-ser. (Ad-mitted).	In-sured.	Non-in-sured.	
In Hospital at end of 1937	9	2	1	7	4	23
Admitted 1938 ..	18	3	1	9	11	42
Died	8	—	—	3	3	14
Discharged ..	13	3	2	11	9	38
In Hospital at end of 1938	6	2	—	2	3	13

Contributions to the extent of £122. 7s. 1d. were received during 1938, towards the cost of treatment at the Gildredge Hospital.

CLASSIFICATION OF PATIENTS IN GILDREDGE HOSPITAL.

	Classification on Discharge.					In Hospital at end of 1938.
	Stationary.	Improved.	Greatly Improved.	Worse.	Fatal.	
MALES—Classification at end of 1937.						
Early (6)	—	2	1	1	2	—
Intermediate (4)	1	1	1	—	1	—
Advanced (2)	—	1	—	—	1	—
Observation (—)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Classification on Admission during 1938—						
Early (1)	—	—	—	—	—	1
Intermediate (11)	—	2	1	—	1	7
Advanced (10)	2	1	1	2	3	1
Observation (—)	—	—	—	—	—	—
FEMALES—Classification at end of 1937						
Early (2)	—	1	1	—	—	—
Intermediate (6)	—	—	2	—	4	—
Advanced (2)	—	1	—	—	—	1
Observation (1)	—	—	1	—	—	—
Classification on Admission during 1938—						
Early (7)	—	2	2	1	—	2
Intermediate (6)	—	1	2	—	1	2
Advanced (3)	1	1	—	—	1	—
Observation (4)	—	2	2	—	—	—

GILDREDGE HOSPITAL.

Period : 1st April, 1938, to 31st March, 1939.	Adults.		Child- ren.	Whole Institu- tion.
	Men.	Women.		
Average number of beds pro- vided at the Institution during the year ..	12	12	—	24
Number of patient days during the year ..	3232	2802	48	6082
Average number of beds occupied during the year	8·85	7·81	—	16·6

Classification of cases discharged (or died) during the year,
expressed as a percentage of the total cases discharged (or died) :—

(a) Observation	6·66
(b) Pulmonary	93·34
(c) Non-Pulmonary	Nil.
Average percentage of "bed" cases	52·8
(Males, 54·5 per cent. Females, 50·9 per cent.)	

This hospital is strictly a hospital and not a sanatorium.
Its accommodation is just equal to Eastbourne requirements.

The total cost of the hospital from April 1st, 1938, to
31st March, 1939, including loan charges, was £3,378.

From April 1st, 1938, to March 31st, 1939, there were
6,082 patient days. The patient days included 3,214 "bed"
days, made up as follows : Males, 1,762 ; Females, 1,452.
Each patient cost £3. 17s. 7d. per week. The income from
patients during the above period was £7.

The cost of food for patients and staff amounted to
9s. 8d. each per week.

I submit a record of cases since the hospital was
opened :—

Hospital opened 27th July, 1914.

Date of admission of first patient.. 29th July, 1914.

Number of admissions from the 29th July,

1914, to the 31st December, 1938 .. 1351

Number of patients—

Males 488

Females 520

— 1008

Number of patients admitted once only	782
Twice	152
Three times	47
Four times	17
Five times	5
Six times	4
Seven times	1
—	1008

HISTORY OF GILDREDGE HOSPITAL PATIENTS.

Died in the hospital (from T.B.)	366
Died in the hospital (from other causes) ..	2
Died after discharge (from T.B.)	171
Died after discharge (from other causes) ..	22
Still in the hospital	13
Left the town	218
Not traceable	22
Admitted for observation only	36
Working or able to work	40
Not working or not able to work	26
Disease arrested (besides those working) ..	89
In other hospitals	3
	1008

(b) ST. MARY'S MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL.

Record of cases receiving treatment for tuberculosis during 1938.—This Hospital is only used for cases of tuberculosis of the lungs in emergencies, in cases requiring other treatment or care, or temporarily when there are no vacant beds at the tuberculosis hospital.

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

	Males.	Females.	Children.	Total.
In Hospital at end of 1937	—	1	—	1
Admitted 1938	15	4	1	20
Died	4	—	1	5
Discharged	9	5	—	14
	—	—	—	—
In Hospital at end of 1938	2	—	—	2
	—	—	—	—

NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

	Males.	Females.	Children.	Total.
In Hospital at end of 1937	2	2	1	5
Admitted 1938	1	1	5	7
Died	—	1	3	4
Discharged	2	—	2	4
	—	—	—	—
In Hospital at end of 1938	1	2	1	4
	—	—	—	—

In eleven of the cases admitted to St. Mary's Hospital during the year the diagnosis of tuberculosis had not been made before admission (7 pulmonary and 4 non-pulmonary). Eight of the pulmonary cases were subsequently transferred to the Gildredge Hospital. In addition, four of the pulmonary cases were admitted as emergency cases, and three cases had previously received treatment during the year at the Gildredge Hospital.

Three of the non-pulmonary cases received treatment in the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital, Stanmore, during the year, and were admitted to St. Mary's Hospital after discharge from that Hospital.

The number of days spent in the Hospital during 1938 by cases suffering from tuberculosis were as follows :—

<i>Pulmonary—</i>	<i>Days.</i>
Males	625
Females	75
Children	10
<i>Non-pulmonary—</i>	<i>Days.</i>
Males	666
Females	736
Children	392

There are four beds at this Hospital in revolving huts in the grounds.

(c) OTHER INSTITUTIONS. (TREATMENT ARRANGED BY
LOCAL AUTHORITY). STATISTICS, 1938.

	MALES.			FEMALES.		Total.
	In-sured.	Non-in-sured.	Ex-ser. (Ad-mitted).	In-sured.	Non-in-sured.	
In Institutions at end of 1937	5	1	—	2	2	10
Admitted 1938 ..	3	2	—	2	3	10
Died	—	—	—	—	—	—
Discharged ..	6	1	—	2	1	10
In Institutions at end of 1938	2	2	—	2	4	10

The cost of sending patients to these institutions was £1,129. 1s. 11d. Contributions were made in seven cases by the patients or their relatives, during the year, to the extent of £231. 14s. 7d. The nett cost in 1938 was £897. 7s. 4d. as compared with £1,099. 18s. 8d. in 1937.

Return showing the immediate results of treatment of definitely tuberculous patients discharged from Residential Institutions approved for the treatment of tuberculosis during the year 1938.

Classification on admission to Institution.	Condition at time of Discharge.	* Duration of Residential Treatment in the Institution.												Total.	
		Under 3 Mths. & over 28 days			3-6 Months.			6-12 Months.			More than 12 Months.				
		M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.		
PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.	Class T.B. Minus Group 1.	Quiescent	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
		Not Quiescent	1	2	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	5
		Died in Institution ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
	Class T.B. Plus Group 1.	Quiescent	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
		Not Quiescent	—	—	—	2	3	—	2	2	—	1	1	—	11
		Died in Institution ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	2
	Class T.B. Plus Group 2.	Quiescent	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
		Not Quiescent	1	1	—	3	2	—	4	2	—	1	—	—	14
		Died in Institution ..	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	4
	Class T.B. Plus Group 3.	Quiescent	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
		Not Quiescent	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	3
		Died in Institution ..	1	—	—	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	5
	Totals (Pulmonary) ..		4	6	—	8	7	—	10	7	—	3	2	—	47
NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.	Bones	Quiescent	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
		Not Quiescent	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	
		Died in Institution ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	Other Organs, and Joints	Quiescent	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
		Not Quiescent	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
		Died in Institution ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	Totals (Non-Pulmonary) ..		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	

* NOTE.—Patients whose stay has not exceeded 28 days are not included.

Of the 28 new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis not previously notified, 15 received institutional treatment during the year, or 55 per cent. Twelve received treatment in the Gildredge Hospital, 3 in St. Mary's Hospital. In addition, 6 cases who moved into the town during the year

were provided with institutional treatment by the Local Authority.

Of the 14 new cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis 10 received institutional treatment during the year. Five received treatment at St. Mary's Hospital, 2 at the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital, Stanmore, and 3 received institutional treatment apart from the Local Authority.

INSTITUTIONS RECEIVING EASTBOURNE PATIENTS DURING 1938 WHETHER THROUGH THE AUTHORITY OR PRIVATELY.

Name of Institution.	In-patients at end of 1937.		Admitted during the year 1938.		Receiving treatment at end of 1938.	
	Males	Fe- males	Males	Fe- males	Males	Fe- males
Gildredge Hospital ..	12	11	22	20	8	5
St. Mary's Hospital, East- bourne.	2	4	20	7	4	2
Princess Alice Hospital, Eastbourne.	—	—	2	3	—	—
Grosvenor Sanatorium, Ashford.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Royal National Orthopae- dic Hospital, Stanmore.	1	2	3	2	2	3
Preston Hall, Aylesford ..	1	—	—	—	1	—
Brompton Hospital, L'don	—	—	2	1	—	—
King Edward VII. Sana- torium, Midhurst.	1	1	—	2	—	1
Eversfield Chest Hospital, St. Leonards-on-Sea ..	1	—	—	—	—	—
Darvell Hall, Roberts- bridge	1	—	—	—	—	—
St. Michael's Home, Ax- bridge	—	1	—	—	—	1
Leaf Hospital, Eastbourne	—	1	—	—	—	—
Totals ..	19	20	49	35	15	12

TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY.

Males : Tuesdays, 11 a.m. ; Medical Officer, Dr. W. G. Willoughby. Females : Thursdays, 11.30 a.m. ; Dr. D. G. Churcher. Special time by appointment.

RETURN SHOWING THE WORK OF THE DISPENSARY DURING THE YEAR 1938.

	Pulmonary.				Non-Pulmonary.		Total.	
	Tb. Minus.		Tb. Plus.					
	Adults.	Children.	Adults.	Children.	Adults.	Children.	Adults.	Children.
Number of Persons on Dispensary Register on 1st January, 1938 ..	49	2	90	—	10	31	149	33
Add—								
Cases transferred from other areas ..	4	—	8	—	—	—	12	—
New cases during 1938 (definitely T.B.)	10	—	9	—	2	6	21	6
Transfer of old cases from T.B. Minus to T.B. Plus ..	63	2	107	—	12	37	182	39
Transfer from Non-Pulmonary to Pulmonary ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Deduct—	63	2	107	—	12	37	182	39
Cases removed from Dispensary Register for the following reasons—								
(a) Left the town ..	6	—	12	—	—	2	18	2
(b) Fatal ..	4	—	27	—	1	2	32	2
(c) Lost sight of or otherwise removed from Register ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	2	—
(d) Arrested ..	5	1	—	—	2	7	10	8
Total cases taken off Register ..	16	1	42	—	4	11	62	12
Cases remaining on Dispensary Register, 31st December, 1938 ..	47	1	65	—	8	26	120	27
Observation Cases examined in 1938 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	29	3
Contacts examined in 1938 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	83

RETURN SHOWING THE WORK OF THE DISPENSARY
DURING 1938—*Continued.*

Number of attendances at dispensary (including contacts)—						
Adults	248					
School children	145					
						— 393
Total number of visits by nurses or health visitors to						
homes	504					
Specimens of sputum examined	41					
Number of attendances of non-pulmonary cases at						
orthopaedic out-stations for treatment or supervision	317					
Number of X-ray examinations made in connection						
with dispensary work—						
Chest	11					
T.B. orthopaedic	10					
						— 21
Number of patients to whom dental treatment was given						
at or in connection with the dispensary	2					
Number of consultations with medical practitioners—						
(a) Personal	2					
(b) Otherwise	25					
						— 27
Number of other visits by tuberculosis officers to homes						
6						
Number of insured persons under domiciliary treatment						
on 31 December, 1938	23					
Number of reports received during the year in respect of						
insured persons—Form G.P.36	49					

NURSES' VISITS.

Total of domiciliary visits for all purposes, 598.

EXTRA NOURISHMENT.

Twenty-one males, 15 females and 2 children were receiving extra nourishment in the form of milk on the 31st December, 1937.

The amount of expenditure from 1st January to 31st December, 1938, has amounted to £170. 11s. 6d., which is equivalent to £3. 0s. 0 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per thousand of the population of the Borough per annum. The total number of persons

assisted during this period was 59, and the total amount supplied was 11,838 pints of milk. The amount of expenditure permitted by the Ministry is £2 for every 1,000 of the population, and this permits milk only.

Seventeen males, 11 females and 3 children were receiving extra nourishment at the end of 1938.

CHILDREN'S TUBERCULOSIS CLINIC.

THURSDAYS, 2.30 p.m.

Medical Officer : Dr. J. FENTON.

Of the children examined, 1 was suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis or consumption, and 24 had tuberculosis elsewhere, as follows :—

Cervical glands	..	..	..	15
Hip	..	..	..	4
Knee	..	..	..	1
Ankle	..	..	..	1
Kidney	..	..	..	1
Peritoneum	..	..	..	1
Abdomen	..	..	..	1
Total	..	..	..	24

The following is a summary of the above cases with particulars of the contacts and observation cases examined and the number of attendances :—

Nature of Case.				Number of Cases Attending.	Number of Attendances.
Pulmonary—					
New cases	..	..	..	—	—
Old cases	..	..	..	1	1
Non-Pulmonary—					
New cases	..	..	..	2	2
Old cases	..	..	..	22	43
Contacts	..	..	..	83	96
Observation cases	..	..	..	3	3
Totals	..	..	..	111	145

All the above pulmonary and non-pulmonary cases were school children.

Special attention was paid to examination of school children contacts with pulmonary tuberculosis cases during the year.

INSTITUTIONAL TREATMENT ARRANGED BY THE COUNCIL.

Children under 15 years of age.

	Males.	Females.
Receiving treatment at the end of 1937	1	1
Admissions during the year	2	2
Discharges during the year	1	—
Deaths in institutions during the year ..	—	—
Receiving treatment at the end of 1938	2	3
Institutions treating cases during 1938 :—		
Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital, Stanmore—		
Males	..	3
Females	..	3
Nature of cases treated :—		
Non-pulmonary—		
Males	..	3
Females	..	3
Number of in-patient days, 1,036.		

EXTRA NOURISHMENT.

One male and 4 females received 1,127 pints of milk during the year.

NOTE.—The particulars relating to the above cases of children are also included in the general tables above.

GENERAL PARTICULARS.

The Chief Tuberculosis Officer is the Medical Officer of Health, and he is the Medical Officer for the men's dispensary, Dr. D. G. Churcher is Medical Officer for clinical work at the hospital and for the women's dispensary, and Dr. J. Fenton acts as deputy for the Medical Officer of Health, and is Medical Officer for the children's clinic.

The Health Visitors make visits where required. It has been found advisable to divide this work rather than to have all the visits made by one nurse.

The dispensary at Avenue House is the centre from which the work is carried on. Examinations of children only are also made at Acacia Villa, Seaside, on Tuesday afternoons, and at Hampden Park Hall on Mondays.

The following up of doubtful cases is done by the Medical Officers and the Nurses, and contacts are examined at the dispensary and in the clinics.

Tuberculin is only occasionally used. Artificial pneumothorax treatment is carried out in suitable cases. Fifty-two A.P. refills were given to 6 patients in the Gildredge Hospital, and 64 A.P. refills to 10 cases who attended as out-patients. Consultant service is available for throat cases and X-ray is available for diagnosis. For more special operations and advice Brompton Hospital has been used. In 1938, X-ray examinations were carried out at the cost of the Council for the following cases :—

Dispensary cases	..	..	..	11
T.B. orthopaedic	..	..	..	10
Gildredge Hospital	..	..	..	19

X-ray examinations in some cases had been carried out through the medical attendants before treatment by the Local Authority.

The local Surgical Aid Society has been of assistance in helping to provide surgical apparatus. There has been no difficulty in this respect.

No home shelters have been applied for. No special occupation locally is concerned with the incidence of tuberculosis.

The Open-Air School is acting as a useful preventive of tuberculosis. This has been rebuilt and extended. No case of actual pulmonary tuberculosis is taken there. The number of children attending at the end of 1937, admitted during the year and attending at the end of 1938, was 109, 58, and 119 respectively. Of the 120 children at the end of 1937, 11 did not re-join the school in 1938, and of the 119 at the end of 1938, 14 will not re-join in 1939.

The co-operation between the General Hospital, the Tuberculosis Hospital, St. Mary's Hospital, the Medical Practitioners and the Tuberculosis Officers is cordial. The instructions in the Ministry orders are closely followed and no other special arrangement is made.

Dental treatment at the hospital is carried out by Mr. Turner. Both there and in the dispensary, patients pay as much as they can for dentures, and individuals and societies kindly make up some of the balance. In some cases the Authority meets the expenses. Dental work in connection with tuberculosis was carried out on behalf of the Authority in 1938, in respect of three cases.

The special difficulty encountered is the want of suitable employment for tuberculous persons who could do a little work. Housing accommodation for some cases unable to pay an average rent is another difficulty.

Special nursing in the home was not provided by the Authority during 1938. The hospital deals with the worst cases and arrangements are made for the particular help required by each tuberculous person.

Except for general survey, no action has been taken in 1938 under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, as regards employees in the milk trade.

It was not necessary to take any action under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, to obtain compulsory removal of cases to hospital.

I am particularly indebted to Mr. A. H. Hookham, of my staff, for his special work *re* Tuberculosis. The tabular records are his work and enable me to give the above account of this disease as it exists in the Borough, and the measures taken for dealing with it.

As regards non-pulmonary tuberculosis its diminution is due partly in Eastbourne, as throughout the country, to the use of safer milk. Very much of the milk, including all that supplied to schools, is now Pasteurised.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

WATER SUPPLY.

The Eastbourne water is supplied by the Eastbourne Water Works Company. The General Manager, Mr. P. H. Blagrove, has kindly given me the figures relating to the quantity used.

The water is obtained from a deep well with a long heading in the chalk at Friston. The well, heading and pumping station are four miles from Eastbourne and situated in a gathering ground, which is very suitable for the purpose.

Great care is taken as to the gathering ground and the methods of its use, so that there shall be no pollution. Afforestation is being carried out on parts of it.

The heading connected to the pumping station is at a depth in no case less than about 120ft. from the surface. The water is pumped from Friston into distributing reservoirs in the immediate neighbourhood of Eastbourne, but it is not stored in any case for more than a day or two. The reservoirs are up-to-date and covered. The supply is constant and at full pressure all the year round, irrespective of rainfall.

The amount of water pumped into Eastbourne for consumption varied from 17 million gallons per week to 25 million gallons per week, the average amount being 20 million gallons per week. This is approximately 39 gallons daily per person of the normal population.

The quantity and quality of the water remain practically the same year by year. It is very satisfactory to have a source so comparatively independent of variations in the amount of rainfall. The supply is constant.

There is a subsidiary source of supply at Holywell, from which 16 million gallons were pumped during 1938. A chlorination plant is in readiness for use in this water if required, but the water has always been found very pure.

Access to the sources is freely permitted to the Medical Officer, and my visits have satisfied me that every care is taken to prevent any accidental pollution.

For water from wells in chalk, the Eastbourne water has a comparatively small hardness, viz., from 11.5 to 13.2 grains per gallon or "degrees Clark."

Domestic softening plants are in use in many houses, but no general water softening takes place.

Analyses of the water were made constantly during 1938 with special full reports twice monthly, alternately by the Borough Analyst and the Company's Analyst. Partial analyses are made weekly. These are, of course, important, but reliance is placed chiefly in keeping the sources unimpeachable. An example of the monthly report is as follows :—

FROM DR. S. ALLINSON WOODHEAD, F.I.C.,
THE PUBLIC ANALYST'S LABORATORY,
MOUNTFIELD HOUSE,
LEWES, SUSSEX.
20th January, 1939.

Report upon a sample of water forwarded by Dr. W. G. Willoughby, M.O.H., Avenue House, The Avenue, Eastbourne, on 16th January, 1939.

Sample labelled :—EASTBOURNE. WATER FROM THE MAIN.

Sample taken at 11.30 a.m. on 16th January, 1939.

The water on arrival had the following characteristics :—

Colour.—None.

Smell.—None.

Sediment.—None.

			Grains per Gallon.	Parts per Million.
Total Solids (dried at 100° C)	..	..	22.2	
Solids (after ignition)	..	..	13.3	
Chlorine	..	..	2.3	
Ammonia (free)	..	..		.018
Ammonia (Albuminoid)	..	..		.030
Oxygen taken from permanganate in				
$\frac{1}{4}$ -hour	..	..	Nil.	
Ditto in 4 hours	..	..	Nil.	
Nitrogen as Nitrates and Nitrites	..	..	.28	
Nitrites	..	..	Nil.	
Hardness, Total	..	..	12.2	
Hardness (after boiling)	..	..	3.4	
Phosphates	..	..	Nil.	
Metallic Impurity	..	..	Trace of iron.	
Ph.	..	..	7.7	

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

The organisms per ml. which grew on nutrient agar in three days at room temperature under aerobic conditions and were then visible to the naked eye as colonies numbered 20.

On agar at blood temperature and under aerobic conditions ten colonies were noticed after two days' incubation.

Examination for organisms of the coli group gave entirely negative results in 100 ml.

REPORT.

This water maintains its high degree of organic purity chemically and bacteriologically. It is highly satisfactory both for drinking purposes and domestic use.

No better water could be desired for a public supply.

(Signed) S. ALLINSON WOODHEAD.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

The sewerage of Eastbourne is in the department of the Borough Engineer.

The whole of the sewage, and part of the surface water, passes into the sea at Langney Point. Owing to the levels of a portion of the Borough, the fall is only natural at low tide ; at high tide some of the sewage has to be lifted by the aid of Shone's pneumatic ejectors and pumps at the east end of the town.

In two parts of the town the local sewage has to be raised to the level of the main sewers by pneumatic ejectors, viz., in Compton Street and Bourne Street. The Borough Engineer is engaged in the preparation of a scheme of reconstruction of the sewerage system.

The dangerous part of the Infectious Diseases Hospital sewage is cremated at the hospital.

The water-carriage system is practically universal in Eastbourne, the exceptions being in connection with agricultural buildings in outlying districts.

The sewer ventilation is by high upcast shafts ; there are no road level ventilators.

The system of intercepting traps between the house drains and the sewers is universal.

There are outfalls on the sea front for surface water.

Many houses are drained by means of iron drains in place of stone-ware.

The surface water system is in many parts separate from the ordinary sewer system, so that rain water shall

not cause the lower parts of the Borough to be flooded in sudden storms. New houses have the double system in most cases.

At the outfall, screening has been adopted for removal of solid matter. There is no other treatment of the sewage.

The cesspools in the added area of the Borough will have to receive more attention.

SCAVENGING.

House refuse is collected by the Corporation and is burnt at the destructor. The arrangements are made by the Borough Engineer.

Motor dust-vans are in general use.

In nearly all houses movable covered ashbins are the receptacles used.

Fish offal and garden refuse are not now specially regularly removed by the Corporation owing to the expense. Special, including garden and shop, refuse is removed on payment.

The cost of removal and destruction of house refuse during the past year was about £12,463, but included in this is some expense in pumping sewage. The income was about £278.

The collection is made once weekly all through the year with a second weekly partial collection during the summer months. Many larger premises have a more frequent periodical removal.

It is more important from a health point of view to have a second collection in the hot weather in small property than in large houses.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF DISTRICT.

The following table shows the number and nature of the sanitary inspections during 1938. Many other casual visits were also made :—

Visits of Inspection of :—

Dwelling Houses	..	..	..	..	1,758
Schools	..	..	..	..	53
Stables and other Premises	..	..	..	..	649
Cowsheds	..	..	..	..	176
Piggeries	..	..	..	..	110
Slaughterhouses	..	..	..	..	2,331
Milk Shops and Dairies	..	..	..	..	470
Fruiterers' Shops	..	..	..	..	623
Fish Shops	..	..	..	..	827
Butchers' Shops	..	..	..	..	1,600
Other Food Stores	..	..	..	..	521
Bakehouses	..	..	..	..	151
Factories and Workshops	..	..	..	..	500
Work Places	..	..	..	..	130
Re-Inspections	..	..	..	..	3,843
Complaints	..	..	..	..	630
Notification Visits	..	..	..	..	506
Houses Disinfected	..	..	..	..	469
Bedding Disinfected	..	..	..	..	447
Drains Tested	..	..	..	..	831
Soil Pipes Tested	..	..	..	..	299
Drains Re-laid	..	..	..	..	273
Drains Ventilated	..	..	..	..	142
Total	..	..	..	..	17,339

The statutory notices served during the year were as shown below with the results. Work is generally carried out after verbal notice of the nature of the defect, including an invitation to confer with the Sanitary Inspector either at the premises or at the office. This accounts for the fewness of the legal notices.

	No. Issued.	No. complied with.	No. out- standing at end of year.
(a) Public Health Act, 1936— Section 92	2	2	—
(b) Public Health Act, 1936— Section 39	1	—	1
(c) Public Health Act, 1936— Sections 44 and 45 ..	1	—	1
* (d) Public Health Act, 1936— Section 46	1	1	—
(e) Public Health Act, 1936— Section 79	—	—	—
(f) Public Health Act, 1936— Section 83	—	—	—
Totals	5	3	2

(a) To abate nuisances.

(b) To do various works of drainage.

(c) To provide proper closets.

(d) Sanitary conveniences in factories.

(e) To provide dustbins.

(f) To cleanse filthy or verminous premises.

* *Repealed as from 1st July, 1938.*

SANITARY CERTIFICATES.—In connection with the Borough Sanitary Certificate the following work was done :—

New certificates issued 2

Old certificates endorsed after re-examination .. 4

The total number of these now issued is .. 1,880

COMMON LODGING HOUSES. — There are now no registered common lodging houses in the Borough.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES. — There were four licensed slaughterhouses in the borough before extension; three were licensed for general slaughtering, one was licensed for pigs only and at one agricultural premises the killing and dressing of pigs, in a properly constructed building, was permitted to a limited extent.

The extension of the borough added five registered slaughterhouses and one premises licensed for a limited number of pigs only. Two of the registered slaughterhouses are used by wholesale firms who slaughter on a large scale.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.—Disinfestation is not carried out by the department (except in the case of the poorer classes), as it was found in the majority of cases that owners and occupiers relied on the action taken by the department and did practically nothing to cope with the infestation. Occupiers and owners are informally notified as to their obligations, suggestions and advice are given as to the best methods to adopt and on subsequent inspections it is generally found that the necessary steps have been taken and on the whole the results are found to be satisfactory.

The disinfestation of Council Houses is carried out by the Corporation Housing Estate Staff under the supervision of the Housing Superintendent.

	Council Houses.	Other Houses.
1. Houses found to be infested	8	33
Houses disinfested	8	33
2. The method employed for freeing houses from bugs normally takes the form of fumigation with "Cimex" fumigators together with spraying the rooms with "Pyagra."		
3. Disinfestation of furniture, bedding, clothing, etc., before removal to Council Houses is not carried out.		
4. No disinfestation on a large scale takes place.		

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS—CAMPING SITES.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936, SECTION 269.

Two applications to use land as camping sites were refused during the year. The two applicants subsequently submitted applications with respect to modified areas of their land and licences were granted subject to prescribed conditions as to water supply, sanitation and cleanliness.

The occupier of a yard, considered unsatisfactory for the purpose, who had in 1937 been refused a licence to station six caravans on his land appealed against the decision of the Council. The court dismissed the appeal and awarded costs to the Council.

In common with many other local authorities difficulty was experienced in dealing with applications within the four

weeks prescribed by the Act. On one occasion it was necessary to summon a special meeting of the Public Health Committee to deal with one application.

Five sites were used for camping purposes during the year. Two were licensed and three were used for a maximum period of five weeks only.

The estimated maximum number of campers on these sites at one time was 480 the peak period being during the first week of August. Some 400 of these campers were in parties of scouts, guides, boys brigades and similar organisations.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.—Occasional verbal instruction has to be given with regard to smoke abatement, but no legal proceedings were necessary.

SCHOOLS.—The various Elementary Schools have been inspected from time to time. There are 15 of these schools with 21 departments.

THEATRES AND OTHER PLACES OF PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT.—A quarterly examination as to the sanitation of these premises has been carried out in 1938.

PREMISES RECEIVING CONSTANT INSPECTION AND ATTENTION
DURING THE YEAR.

Number of cowsheds	..	..	..	..	21
Number of farmyards	..	..	..	..	17
Number of Dairies and Milkshops	..	..	..	..	80
Number of private stables	..	..	..	..	42
Number of piggeries	..	..	..	..	96
Number of Slaughterhouses	..	..	..	..	12
Number of offensive trades	..	..	..	..	2

MILK SUPPLY.

Number of wholesale traders and producers on register	18
*Number of retail purveyors on register	94
Infectious diseases employees	—
Infectious diseases on premises	—
Notice to remedy contravention of Milk and Dairies Order, 1926	14

* 47 of these are retailing milk in sealed cartons only,
as supplied to them by the producers.

RETURN AS TO STRUCTURAL ALTERATIONS, ETC.

Accumulations removed	..	..	..	..	86
Back yards repaired or paved	..	..	..	..	124
Boundary walls repaired	..	..	..	..	32
Chimney stacks repaired	..	..	..	..	23
Cleansing of premises	..	..	..	..	47
Dampness to walls remedied	..	..	..	..	150
Doors and frames repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	201
Drains cleared	..	..	..	..	79
Drains examined and tested	..	..	..	..	477
Drains re-laid and amended	..	..	..	..	232
Drain ventilation improved	..	..	..	..	58
Eaves, gutters and rainwater pipes repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	155
Floors repaired	..	..	..	..	192
Food stores provided or ventilated	..	..	..	..	64
Handrails to stairs provided	..	..	..	..	63
House ventilation improved	..	..	..	..	85
Interceptors fixed	..	..	..	..	59
Lighting of rooms improved	..	..	..	..	50
Lighting of stairways	..	..	..	..	104
New main taps provided	..	..	..	..	76
New sink wastes	..	..	..	..	215
New soil pipes fixed	..	..	..	..	197
New W.C. apparatus provided	..	..	..	..	384
Roofs repaired	..	..	..	..	120
Safes provided under W.C.	..	..	..	..	55
Sanitary dustbins provided	..	..	..	..	156
Sinks renewed	..	..	..	..	131
Smoke nuisances abated	..	..	..	..	13
Soil and vent pipes repaired	..	..	..	..	76
Stairs repaired	..	..	..	..	74
Stoves repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	131
Walls and ceilings cleansed and re-decorated	..	..	..	..	477
Walls and ceilings, plaster required	..	..	..	..	256
Walls repaired (brickwork)	..	..	..	..	91
Washing coppers repaired	..	..	..	..	65
Waste pipes trapped	..	..	..	..	196
W.C. apparatus repaired and cleansed	..	..	..	..	157

W.C. cisterns fixed	130
Window frames, sashes, cords, etc., repaired or renewed	444
Miscellaneous items	368

In addition to the tabulated amendments above, considerable attention has been given to general improvements of structural conditions, especially with a view to preventing dampness.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

This Act came into force on the 1st July, 1938, superseding the Factory and Workshops Act, 1901, which was repealed as from that date.

The new Act does not include a definition of "workshop" and in future these are to be classed as "factories." This has the effect of creating a suprising number of factories in a residential area but the majority of the factories are small premises.

The following tables show the extent of supervision of factories during the year ; for the purpose of this report all such premises are given the definition applied by the Factories Act, 1937, even though they may have been classed as workshops at the time action was taken.

I.—INSPECTIONS

for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspec- tions.	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecu- tions.
Factories with mechanical power ..	126	4	—
Factories without mechanical power ..	331	3	—
Other Premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not including out-workers' premises)	95	—	—
Total	552	7	—

II.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of Defects			
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Prosecutions.
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	22	22	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperatures (S.3)	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ..	3	3	—	—
Ineffective Drainage of Floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)—				
Insufficient	4	4	—	—
Unsuitable or defective ..	8	8	—	—
Not separate for Sexes ..	—	—	—	—
Other offences	1	1	—	—
(Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories & Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937).				
Total	38	38	—	—

OUTWORK IN UNWHOLESOME PREMISES.—Section 108 of Act of 1901 and Section 111 of Act of 1937.—There have been no instances of outwork in unwholesome premises reported during the year.

BASEMENT BAKEHOUSES.—There are seven basement bakehouses in use and occupation in the Borough. All of these have certificates of suitability issued in 1904. The question of permitting the continued use of the bakehouses will be considered early in 1939.

BAKEHOUSES.—There are 25 Bakehouses (other than basement bakehouses) in use and occupation.

All bakehouses have received constant attention and the sanitary conditions maintained.

Bread should be sold in wrappers, but there are no means of requiring this desirable precaution.

SHOPS ACTS, 1912-1936.

The provisions of the Shops Acts, 1912-1936 are administered by the Sanitary and Public Health Committee ; but only Section 10 of the Act of 1934 is dealt with by the Public Health Department.

Each of the Sanitary Inspectors is an appointed officer for the purpose of the Shops Acts, and deals with the application of the Section in his district, but there is uniformity throughout the Borough.

Much useful work has been done in the way of provision of sufficient sanitary accommodation and washing facilities. Only one application for exemption has been granted in connection with a shop having sanitary accommodation nearby.

The provision requiring a reasonable temperature in shops has created the most difficulties and it is therefore gratifying to be able to report that, with a very few exceptions, all shops where persons are employed in or about the business of the shop have been provided with suitable means of maintaining a reasonable temperature and a reasonable temperature is maintained. As was to be expected, such trades as butchers, fruiterers and fishmongers were the shops which presented the greatest difficulties, and it was necessary to serve statutory notices in respect of three fish shops and three fruiterers shops.

Statutory notices, served during 1937, in respect of nine butchers shops were not complied with within the prescribed period.

The Council authorised proceedings with respect to three fish and nine butchers shops, but the required means of heating were installed before the summonses were served.

OFFICES.

Under the wider definition of "workplace" contained in Section 343 of the Public Health Act, a local authority has now control over places of clerical employment. Offices are being dealt with in the normal routine work of the

Inspectors and lighting, ventilation and sanitary accommodation are being dealt with. Only minor defects or defaults have so far been discovered and these have been attended to.

BATHS.

There are three municipal bathing establishments which include two sea water and one fresh water swimming baths. Practically all the varieties of medicinal baths can now be obtained in Eastbourne either by municipal or private enterprise.

DEVONSHIRE BATHS.

The following varieties of baths are provided :— Ordinary baths, two large swimming baths filled by gravitation from the sea, which are fitted with up-to-date filtration and purification machinery ; hot and cold sea water baths ; electrical, vapour, foam and spray baths.

SEASIDE BATHS.

These were opened in 1903. The accommodation comprises 15 slipper baths for men and 15 for women, with the addition of a shower and needle bath for each sex.

The numbers using them in 1938 were : men, 22,527 ; women, 16,730 ; children, 292 ; total, 39,549 ; an increase of 1,388 on the 1937 figures and of 4,327 on the 1936 figures.

OLD TOWN BATHS.

These were opened in 1905. There are 12 baths for men and 3 for women. By arrangement on one day weekly all the baths are available for women for part of the day.

The swimming bath is 60ft. long by 20ft. wide, and varies in depth from 3ft. 6in. to 6ft. 6in. The water is changed as considered necessary and is chlorinated. It is fresh water from a well on the premises. Examinations of the water are made bacteriologically.

Number of swimming bathers, 1938 :—

Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
2645	864	15862	8490	27861

The largest number previously was 38,886 in 1929.
Number of ordinary bathers :—

Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
6655	3797	67	10519

During 1938, 183 boys and 114 girls of the Elementary Schools who had learned to swim during the year and passed the test received certificates originated by the late Mr. Alderman Hollins, M.A. The following figures show the number of these certificates awarded :—

Year.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
1920 to 1934	1627	1597	3224
1935	148	132	280
1936	137	99	236
1937	117	186	303
1938	183	114	297

The cost of the baths was as follows for the year ending 31st March, 1939 :—

		Income.	Expenditure.	Deficit.
Seaside	..	£579	£1644	£1065
Old Town	..	£472	£1318	£846

CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL WORK.

Tables in the report show the work done in 1938.

Chemical and bacteriological examinations of water were made by the Borough Analyst and by the Water Company's Analyst alternately in each month. Some samples were also sent to the Clinical Research Association.

Ordinary diphtheria and tuberculosis bacteriology is carried out by the Medical Officer of Health. Other bacteriology is sent to Dr. Shera, or to the Clinical Research Association.

Wasserman examinations were made at the Pathological Department, Princess Alice Hospital, Eastbourne, by Dr. A. G. Shera, the Medical Attendant of the Venereal Diseases Clinic.

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.

Special Officer : Mr. A. LINDFIELD.

There were numerous complaints or notifications that rats were seen on various premises during the year. All parts of the town were equally affected.

Investigation usually showed that the rats were present in ones and twos, and steps were promptly taken to deal with them with satisfactory results.

The policy of giving advice and assistance, although reserving the right to use the legal provisions if necessary, has resulted in early notification by occupiers that rats were on the premises.

With the co-operation of the Borough Engineer the sewers throughout the town are regularly baited, particular attention being paid to the sections liable to harbour rats. Parks and open spaces owned by the Council also receive regular attention.

During "National Rat Week" special attention was paid to all premises liable to infestation and rat catchers were engaged, with dogs and gassing machines, for "Rat Week," the week before and the week following, no less than 397 rats being caught during the three weeks.

The press, public and officers of the Council all co-operate to combat the rats with good results.

No legal action has been taken during the year.

FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.

The supervision of milk includes analysis to ascertain if the normal contents are present and examinations bacteriologically and otherwise to ascertain the presence or absence of contamination.

There is in this country no fixed standard for the contents of milk. There is a standard which it is assumed milk should reach, viz. :—3% fat and 8.5% solids not fat.

In 1938, four samples of milk were found to be below this standard in fat, but so slightly that caution was considered sufficient. On the whole the averages were good.

The following samples of milk were submitted to the Public Analyst during the year :—

			Samples.	Average Fat.	Average Solids.
January ..	..	..	—	—	—
February ..	..	..	—	—	—
March ..	..	..	16	3.62	8.72
April ..	..	..	—	—	—
May ..	..	..	1	3.00	9.00
June ..	..	..	25	3.42	8.95
July ...	..	..	3	3.02	8.72
August ..	..	..	—	—	—
September ..	..	..	—	—	—
October ..	..	..	4	4.00	8.92
November ..	..	..	3	3.78	8.88
December ..	..	..	—	—	—
			—	—	—
			52	3.52	8.86
			—	—	—

There was no case of preservative or colouring matter in milk ; these additions are definitely prohibited.

Deficiency of normal constituents, important as it is, is not so serious as contamination of milk likely to cause illness. Tables showing the results of bacteriological examinations of milk samples are given in this section.

Milk is now so invariably supplied in bottles and cartons that accidental contamination is uncommon.

There has been an increased amount of milk pasteurised and most of the milk now receives this attention. It is unsatisfactory that this should be necessary. There is no doubt that milk, fresh and untreated, is the ideal form of supply, but various illnesses and particularly tuberculosis can be conveyed by ordinary milk, and pasteurisation, if efficient, can make milk safe in this respect.

The inference that pasteurisation might destroy nutritious and other values of milk is not justified according to experiments. At all events the balance of safety makes the process necessary while much of the milk is produced as it is at present.

TUBERCULOSIS ORDER, 1938.

No action was taken under this order during the year.

SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS MILK.

On 1st June, 1936, the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936, came into operation. This Order, which revoked the Order of 1923 and 1934, and which was subsequently amended by the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1938, prescribed the following special designations and conditions :—

(a) *Tuberculin Tested*.—The conditions for this grade are :—

Cows Tuberculin Tested at intervals of not less than 2 or more than 6 months and must pass a Veterinary Examination.

The milk may be bottled on the farm or in a licensed dairy.

The milk must satisfy the prescribed methylene blue reduction test for cleanliness and must contain no coliform bacillus in one-hundredth of a millilitre.

(b) *Accredited*.—The conditions for this grade are :—

Cows must be clinically examined by a Veterinary Inspector once in every 3 months.

The requirements as to bottling and testing are the same as for Tuberculin Tested Milk.

- (c) *Pasteurised*.—The milk must be brought to and retained at a temperature of not less than 145° and not more than 150° F. for at least 30 minutes and then immediately cooled to a temperature not more than 55° F.

The milk at any time before delivery to the consumer must not contain more than 100,000 bacteria per millilitre.

Under the Milk (Special Designations) Orders, 1936 and 1938, the following licences were issued in 1938 :—

To produce Accredited Milk	..	..	..	4
Pasteuriser's Licences	..	..	..	2
Dealers Licences for Tuberculin Tested Milk	..			18
Dealers Licences for Pasteurised Milk	..	..		10
Dealers Licences to bottle Tuberculin Tested Milk				2
Supplementary Licences to deal in Pasteurised Milk	..	..	..	1
Supplementary Licences to deal in Accredited Milk	..	..	..	1

The Council hold, from the Minister of Health, licences to produce Accredited Milk and to pasteurise milk at their farm, Bullock Down, Beachy Head. The pasteurised milk is supplied to St. Mary's Hospital and the Institution.

One producer of Tuberculin Tested Milk and five producers of Accredited Milk were licensed in the area added to the Borough on April 1st.

By arrangement with the Agricultural Committee of the East Sussex County Council samples of Tuberculin Tested and Accredited Milk are taken by the County Milk samplers on the farms at the time of production.

During the year one case of Anthrax, in a cow, was reported.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK.

The following tables show the results of the examination of samples of Tuberculin Tested, Accredited and Pasteurised Milk and of two samples of milk before Pasteurisation.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

PASTEURISED MILK.

Sample No.	Organisms per ml.	Coli in 1/100th ml. (3 tubes).			Report.
		1	2	3	
77	800	Absent	Absent	Absent	Complied with prescribed conditions.
78	750	Absent	Absent	Absent	Complied with prescribed conditions.
79	258.000	Absent	Absent	Absent	Failed to comply with prescribed conditions.
80	1.000	Absent	Absent	Present	Complied with prescribed conditions.
81	850	Absent	Absent	Absent	Complied with prescribed conditions.
83	800	Absent	Absent	Absent	Complied with prescribed conditions.
84	800	Absent	Absent	Absent	Complied with prescribed conditions.
86	3.000	Absent	Absent	Absent	Complied with prescribed conditions.
87	7.000	Absent	Absent	Absent	Complied with prescribed conditions.
402	3.350	Absent	Absent	Absent	Complied with prescribed conditions.
403	370	Present	Absent	Absent	Complied with prescribed conditions.
404	2.850	Absent	Absent	Absent	Complied with prescribed conditions.
407	600	Absent	Absent	Absent	Complied with prescribed conditions.
418	60	Absent	Absent	Absent	Complied with prescribed conditions.
MILK BEFORE PASTEURISATION.					
82	1.000	Absent	Absent	Absent	Satisfactory.
85	3.000	Absent	Absent	Absent	Satisfactory.

TUBERCULIN TESTED AND ACCREDITED MILK.

Month.	Number examined and tested.	Number satisfying both tests.	Number failed on both tests.	Number failed on B. Coli only.	Number failed on Methy- lene Blue test only.
January ..	1	1	—	—	—
March ..	1	1	—	—	—
May ..	6	3	2	1	—
June ..	8	5	2	1	—
July	1	1	—	—	—
August ..	3	3	—	—	—
October ..	2	2	—	—	—
November ..	8	6	—	1	1
December ..	3	3	—	—	—
	33	25	4	3	1

These results include samples taken at the farm at the time of production and samples taken in bottle at retailer's premises.

MILK IN GENERAL SHOPS.

It is now a definite arrangement that where milk is sold in "general" shops dealing with various articles likely to contaminate milk, it is not to be exposed for sale in counter pans, hand cans or otherwise, but only retailed in sealed glass bottles or cartons as received from the dairyman and handed over intact to the customer.

MILK (MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE).

A review of the action taken will be found in the Maternity and Child Welfare section of this report.

MILK (TUBERCULOSIS CASES).

Milk is the principal extra food given gratuitously to certain patients as set forth in the Tuberculosis section of this report.

MILK IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

This is described in my report as School Medical Officer.

OTHER FOODS.

No other food calls for special remark.

There were no statutory "seizures" of food during 1938.

The surrenders of unsound food, other than meat surrendered at slaughterhouses, during the year were as follows :—

IMPORTED MEAT.

309-lbs. Beef.	1 Leg Lamb.
1 Lambs Carcase.	2 Ox Livers.
10-lbs. Lamb Livers.	2 Ox Kidneys.
356 $\frac{3}{4}$ -lbs. Bacon.	

OTHER FOODS.

129-lbs. Beef.	1 tin Brisket.
3 Pigs' Livers.	25 tins Herrings.
1 Leg Pork.	5 tins Salmon.
12 Ducks.	1 tin Egg Yolk
6 Chickens.	1 tin Condensed Milk.
2 Calves Plucks.	95 tins Plums.
14-lbs. Cods Roes.	4 tins Oranges.
10 stones Uss.	4 tins Pears.
12 stones Herrings.	2 tins. Apples.
14-lbs. Kippers.	13 tins Cherries.
7 gallons Shrimps.	11 tins Pineapple.
9 boxes Cod Fillets.	4 tins Raspberries.
10 boxes Dried Whiting.	1 tin Grape Fruit.
100-lbs. Chilled Salmon.	1 tin Loganberries.
230 Eggs.	1 tin Peaches.
9 Christmas Puddings.	1 tin Strawberries.
8 boxes Oranges.	2 tins Fruit Salad.
6 tins Corned Beef.	5 tins Tomatoes.
6 tins Ham.	6 tins Carrots.

3 tins Peas.

MEAT INSPECTION.

The system employed for the inspection of meat at slaughterhouses is that set out by the Ministry of Health in Memo. 62, Foods.

An effort is made to comply with the recommendation that all animals should be examined at the time of or immediately after slaughter, although this necessitates the attendance of the inspectors at the slaughterhouses for many hours a day, the times of slaughtering extending from 7 a.m. to 11.15 p.m. for five days of the week at the wholesale slaughterhouses and at the smaller private slaughterhouses most of the killing is done during the late afternoon and evening.

The following table indicates the amount of meat dealt with and the amount condemned as unsound together with the disease or condition rendering it unfit for food.

Owing to the difficulties of extracting the figures relating to the added area the tables show the amount dealt with in the borough as originally constituted and for the borough as extended by the Eastbourne Extension Act, 1937.

It is a sad comment on the class of animals slaughtered that there should have been found so many affected by tuberculosis—over half in the case of cows. It is an indication of the difficult duties of the Sanitary Inspectors.

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

		Cattle, excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed	.. .. .	1148	1466	6370	15705	13261
Number inspected	.. .. .	1148	1466	6370	15705	13261
All diseases except Tuberculosis—Whole carcasses condemned		3	34	5	93	12
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned		66	295	22	350	909
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	.. .. .	6%	22.44%	0.42%	2.8%	6.9%
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY.						
Whole carcasses condemned	.. .. .	10	95	3	—	10
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	.. .. .	167	677	41	—	322
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis		15.42%	52.6%	0.69%	—	2.5%

The butchers generally willingly co-operate with the Inspectors, and all diseased meat has been voluntarily surrendered for destruction. No formal action has been taken for contravention of the Meat Regulations, 1924, and minor contraventions have been remedied after verbal intimation.

FISH.

The estimated amount of fish, excluding shellfish, landed at Eastbourne from January to December, 1938, was 236 tons, mainly in January, February, November and December. The market is adequate for this purpose, and for inspection.

During the same period the Railway Co. conveyed 1,964 tons of fish into Eastbourne, 622 of this tonnage in July, August and September.

PRESERVATIVES IN FOOD.

No action had to be taken in connection with the Condensed and Dried Milk Regulations and the Public Health (Preservatives, etc., in Food) Regulations, except to see that they were duly carried out.

FOOD AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT.

The number of samples taken for analysis and the results are shown in the following table. The percentage returned as adulterated was 4.5 per cent. In 1937 it was 5.7 per cent. and in 1936, 1.5 per cent.

FORMAL SAMPLES.

Articles.	Samples taken.	Returned as	
		Genuine.	Adulterated.
Ammoniated Tinct. of Quinine ..	1	1	—
Black Currant Jelly	1	1	—
Brawn	1	1	—
Butter	8	8	—
Cheese	1	1	—
Cocoa	2	2	—
Currants	4	4	—
Dessicated Cocoanut	1	1	—
Glaze Cherries	1	1	—
Ground Almonds	2	2	—
Ground Ginger	1	1	—
Ground Nutmeg	1	1	—
Jam	3	3	—
Lard	4	4	—
Liver Sausage	1	1	—
Luncheon Sausage	2	2	—
Margarine	2	2	—
Milk	52	48	4
Mincemeat	2	2	—
Mixed Peel	1	1	—
Paste	1	—	1
Pepper	1	1	—
Raisins	3	3	—
Rice	2	2	—
Sago	3	3	—
Sausages	4	4	—
Sugar—Barbados	2	2	—
Sugar—Icing	1	1	—
Sultanas	8	8	—
Sweets	3	3	—
Tapioca	2	2	—
Tea	1	1	—
Wheat Semolina	1	1	—
Wine	4	4	—
	127	122	5

INFORMAL SAMPLES.

Articles.	Samples taken.	Returned as	
		Genuine.	Adulterated.
Paste	3	2	1
Sultanas	1	1	—
	4	3	1

SAMPLES NOT GENUINE (FORMAL).

Sam- ple No.	Article.	In what respect not genuine.	Action taken.
212	Milk ..	Deficient in fat 3.3% ..	Vendor cautioned.
220	Milk ..	Deficient in fat 3.3% ..	Vendor cautioned.
305	Milk ..	Deficient in fat 6% ..	Vendor cautioned.
229	Milk ..	Deficient in fat 3.3% ..	Vendor cautioned.
127	Paste ..	Contained 55 parts per million sulphur dioxide.	Further samples to be taken.

SAMPLES NOT GENUINE (INFORMAL).

Sam- ple No.	Article.	In what respect not genuine.	Action taken.
141	Chicken and Ham Paste.	Contained 23 parts per million sulphur dioxide.	Further samples to be taken.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS, 1938.

No legal proceedings were instituted by the Department during 1938.

FERTILISERS AND FEEDING STUFFS ACT, 1926.

No action was taken under this Act during the year 1938.

NUTRITION.

The only means in operation of arriving at the state of nutrition of the populace is through the School Medical Inspections. I have in my School Medical Report dealt with nutrition in school children. Cases of malnutrition are few, but connected with many factors.

HOUSING.

The Housing Act, 1936, which is "An Act to consolidate the Housing Acts, 1925 to 1935, and certain other enactments relating to Housing," came into force on the 1st Jan., 1937.

The references in this report to the various sections of the Housing Act, 1936, include action taken under the former Acts where such matters were commenced prior to 1937.

To ensure uniformity throughout the Borough, Mr. A. Lindfield, Sanitary Inspector, continued in his appointment as Housing Inspector to carry out all formal duties falling upon this department under the Housing Act, 1936. The following statements, tables and forms dealing with repair, closing or improvement of houses and clearance areas and with overcrowding have been completed by him.

No change in procedure was necessary as the provisions as to the various actions such as the repair, closing, demolition, etc., of individual unfit houses, clearance areas and the more recent provisions for dealing with overcrowding were repealed and re-enacted in a consolidated form.

INDIVIDUAL UNFIT HOUSES.

(a) CAPABLE, AT REASONABLE COST, OF BEING RENDERED FIT.—SEC. 9.

Three formal notices to carry out works necessary to render the houses in all respects fit for human habitation were served during the year. The owners have complied with the requirements of the notices. The works required under three formal notices served during 1937 were completed by the owners during 1938.

(b) INCAPABLE, AT REASONABLE COST, OF BEING RENDERED FIT.—SEC. 11.

One house was reported upon and the Council were satisfied that the house was incapable at reasonable cost of being rendered fit. This house was in the area added to the Borough on 1st April, 1938, and is now closed.

The Council, on the 3rd May, 1937, approved a schedule of "Particulars of work for rendering dwelling houses fit

for human habitation.” This prescribed schedule has proved extremely useful as a guide to owners wishing to bring their houses up to a reasonable standard or to enable them to draw up an undertaking for submission to the Council as an alternative to Demolition or Closing Orders under Sections 11 and 12 of the Act.

(c) UNFIT PARTS OF BUILDINGS OR UNDERGROUND ROOMS.—
SEC. 12.

The policy of requiring owners to secure proper lighting, ventilation, etc., of underground rooms continued. Many owners, without formal action by the Council, have brought such rooms up to the standard required by the Regulations made by the Council with respect to Underground Rooms.

The work entailed in causing these rooms to be made fit is well worth while, as what were dark, damp and badly ventilated rooms became well lighted, dry and well ventilated. The cost of such work is in direct ratio to the degree of darkness and the extent of dampness, etc., prevailing before the improvements are put in hand.

Closing Orders prohibiting the use of two underground rooms were made by the Council during the year.

The Closing Orders made with respect to three underground rooms were determined by the Council in 1938, the underground rooms having been amended to comply with the Regulations made by the Council.

A part of a building, being a flat over two shops, which was closed in 1937, has, with the shops, been demolished and re-built, but application to determine the Closing Order has not yet been made.

CLEARANCE AREAS. PART III.

After an Official Representation the Council, on the 4th April, 1938, declared the Alma Road area to be a clearance area. This area comprised 29 dwellings and three shops. A Clearance Order was made on the 1st June.

Objection was registered by the owners, but before an Inquiry was held the owners submitted a scheme for re-developing the area. At the Inquiry, held on the 26th July, 1938, the owners' representative gave an undertaking

with reference to two lock-up shops and one dwelling involving reconstruction without disturbing the external walls.

The Minister subsequently confirmed the Clearance Order with modification that the three premises should be excluded from the Order, subject to the undertaking referred to, leaving it to the Council to ensure compliance with the undertaking.

The Order as confirmed dealt with 28 dwellings occupied by 117 persons. No re-housing from this area had been carried out by the end of the year.

The occupants of 14 houses in other "confirmed" areas were re-housed during the year and the houses subsequently demolished.

It was necessary for the Council to secure the demolition of six houses as the owner had failed to do so.

The following shows the clearance areas dealt with to 31st December, 1938 :—

Order.	Area in Acres.	Houses in Area.	Confirmed by Minister of Health.	Persons.	
				Displaced or re-housed.	Not yet displaced or re-housed.
Bay Pond Clearance Order, 1935.	0.1004	8	25th Oct., 1935.	32	—
Reeds Bank Clearance Order, 1935.	0.079	6	25th Oct., 1935.	21	—
Parsonage Road Compulsory Purchase Order, 1935.	0.104	6	18th Oct., 1935.	17	—
Church Street Clearance Order, 1936	0.088	10	22nd Oct., 1936.	27	—
East Street Clearance Order, 1936	0.254	13	15th June, 1937.	54	—
North Street Clearance Order, 1936	0.159	9	15th June, 1937.	25	—
Bridgers Cottages Clearance Order, 1936	0.1212	6	15th June, 1937.	27	—
Langney Road Clearance Order, 1936	0.0234	3	15th June, 1937.	9	—
Alma Road Clearance Order, 1938	0.561	28	16th Nov., 1938.	—	117
	1.49	89	—	212	117

With the exception of the Alma Road Order, all of the Orders were confirmed by the Minister without modification.

PAYMENT IN RESPECT OF WELL-MAINTAINED HOUSES.—
SEC. 42.

The Minister of Health having taken into account the report of his Inspector directed that payment under this section should be made in respect of five houses included in the East Street and North Street Orders, the Minister being satisfied that, notwithstanding their sanitary defects, the houses had been well maintained. Formal claim was made during the year with respect to two of these houses and the sum of £61. 10s. was paid to the owner.

The Council was also directed that payment should be made under this section with respect to six houses included in the Alma Road Order. No claim had been made for these houses by the end of the year.

ALLOWANCES TO CERTAIN PERSONS DISPLACED.—Sec. 44.

During the year payments equal to the cost of removal have been made to the occupier of six houses in confirmed areas : £7. 10s. in all.

A claim for compensation for loss of business due to the removal of families from the Alma Road area was received and was under consideration at the end of the year.

OVERCROWDING. PART IV.

The survey of working class dwellings commenced under the Housing Act, 1935, continued during 1938. All known working class houses have been measured and the permitted number for each house and the size of the family occupying it recorded.

From time to time houses which previously were not considered suitable for occupation by persons of the working class have been found to be so occupied and the premises measured and recorded.

Including the 228 working class dwellings in the added area, 10,130 separate dwellings have now been measured and recorded.

All known cases of overcrowding and those families with children who were within half a unit of being overcrowded were visited towards the end of the year in order to ascertain the position after a period of a year had elapsed.

The information obtained by these visits indicated an extensive amount of movement amongst this portion of the population. There is no doubt that families on the border line of being overcrowded are more likely to move than those more fortunately placed as regards housing.

This movement is controlled to a large extent by two factors, rent and the desire for more room. The primary factor is undoubtedly rent; very many working class families are called upon to pay a larger rent than they can reasonably afford and are continually seeking accommodation at a rent within their means, even if this entails some cramping of space. The second factor is the desire for more room on the part of those with families who can afford an extra few shillings a week for rent.

An additional factor controlling movement of families during 1938 was the coming into force of the Rent Restrictions Regulations of 1938. Eastbourne is one of few districts where large numbers of working class families occupy houses having a rateable range of £21-£35 in April, 1931.

In some cases whole streets of cottages were affected by the Regulations and practically all the tenants received notice to quit with the option of remaining in possession at an increased rent. Families who had occupied the houses for years were suddenly called upon to pay an average of 10/- per week more rent.

A few owners subsequently reduced their demands, but during September-October an unusual movement of the working population took place. An example of this is indicated in the report to the Housing Committee on the 7th December, wherein it will be noted that of 640 applicants for Council houses, no less than 221 could not be traced and 169 had not returned the completed questionnaire. Assuming that 50% of the latter number had also moved, it will be

seen that 47% of the 640 applicants for Council houses had moved during the previous few months, although the move may not have improved their housing conditions.

Having regard to this extensive movement, it is difficult to devise a reasonably practicable method of keeping in touch with the overcrowding problem or to form, at any given time, anything like a reliable estimate of the extent of overcrowding in the district other than the known cases. Complete re-surveys every few years appear to be the only course open.

An attempt is made to keep in touch with the conditions by various means. The houses left vacant by families moving into Council houses are visited ; each such removal involves changes of tenancy through several houses or smaller dwellings as families move to dwellings previously occupied by another. Vacant dwellings are noted and re-visited when let ; births and deaths are noted from the returns and the names and addresses checked ; families are also checked off from the voters lists and local directory as published.

It is now more than $2\frac{1}{2}$ years since the original report on overcrowding was submitted and in that time the known overcrowded families have been reduced from 281 to 137 in December, 1938. With some exceptions this reduction has been brought about by normal movement of the families. The number of overcrowded families comprising seven or more persons remains practically constant as these families cannot, without aid by the Council, obtain accommodation of sufficient size at rents they can afford.

No building for the purpose of re-housing of overcrowded families has yet been carried out, but several such families have been allotted Council houses as suitably sized houses become vacant.

Eight families became overcrowded during the year by reason of a child or children reaching the age of one year or ten years.

One family in the added area was found to be overcrowded, but moved out of the district before action could

be taken ; one family of $2\frac{1}{2}$ persons (man, wife and girl of eight years) was found to be occupying one room ; this case was reported in December and the Council deferred action until January.

This latter case is included in the following table, but with this exception all the families were occupying their dwellings before the appointed day (1st January, 1937).

Overcrowding, where the family was not in occupation before the appointed day, is an offence against the Act and may be dealt with by way of a penalty or by the landlord or the Council on behalf of the landlord obtaining an order for possession.

The sizes of the overcrowded families are as follows :—

14	families of 1 person	(31)
4	„ 2 persons	(17)
11	„ 3 „	(42)
16	„ 4 „	(51)
8	„ 5 „	(28)
9	„ 6 „	(19)
16	„ 7 „	(22)
19	„ 8 „	(25)
20	„ 9 „	(25)
15	„ 10 „	(13)
4	„ 11 „	(5)
1	„ 12 „	(2)
1	„ 13 „	(1)

The numbers in brackets show the number of overcrowded families of each size in 1936.

OTHER HOUSE INSPECTION.

1. Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year.

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	.. .. .	579
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	.. .. .	1758
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected		

and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	260
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	784
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ..	30
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	304
2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices.	
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	278
3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year.	
(A) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	3
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	3
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	—
(B) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	3
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	2
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	—

(C) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	1
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ..	—

(D) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ..	2
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	3

4. Housing Act, 1936.—Part IV. Overcrowding.

(a) (i.) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	138
(ii.) Number of families dwelling therein	138
(iii.) Number of persons dwelling therein	876
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	10
(c) (i.) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	9
(ii.) Number of persons concerned in such cases	52
(d) Particulars of any cases in which the dwellings have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	—
(e) Other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions—	

Comparative position—	20.4.36.	31.12.38.
Overcrowded families in		
Council houses ..	87	53
Overcrowded families in		
privately owned houses	194	85
	281	138

GENERAL SURVEY.

Until 1935, in recent years no small houses had been built for letting purposes except by the Borough Council. Towards the end of 1935 a scheme for the erection of houses at Hampden Park for letting to persons of the working classes was commenced, and at the end of 1938 280 of these houses had been completed and occupied.

The private purchase of houses has been assisted by the Council in 43 instances during 1938 and altogether to the end of 1938 in 855 cases.

The houses completed in 1938 numbered 272, 22 of these being built by the Council.

The housing undertakings of the Council have been set forth in previous reports. The first thirteen schemes and 22 other special houses have been fully described in my report for 1934.

The fourteenth scheme provided for 38 two-bedroom non-parlour and 38 three-bedroom non-parlour houses in Northbourne Road at the east end of the town, and these were completed in 1936.

Twelve non-parlour houses were erected on vacant ground at the Victoria Drive site, and two on the site of a clearance area in Parsonage Road, to re-house displaced tenants.

The fifteenth scheme commenced during 1936 and completed in 1937 provided for 10 two-bedroom and 24 three-bedroom houses at Hampden Park, most of which were required for housing tenants from clearance areas and closed houses.

The sixteenth scheme commenced during 1937 provided for six three-bedroom and 16 two-bedroom non-parlour houses at Hampden Park for the re-housing of tenants from clearance areas, and these were completed and let during 1938.

The Borough Treasurer's estimate of the net call on the rate for the Housing Committee from April, 1938, to March, 1939, was £7,881.

The number of houses required in Eastbourne to abate the overcrowding was 119. Another 83 houses were estimated to be required to re-house tenants of houses scheduled as unfit. The Council has now 1,095 completed houses, some of which become vacant for new tenants from time to time. In 1938, 36 of these vacancies occurred.

HOUSING APPLICATIONS.

The following report, which was submitted to the Housing Committee towards the close of 1938, shows the position as regards the applications for Council houses :—

To the Chairman and Members of the Housing Committee.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES.

In order to assist the Committee in reaching a decision as to their probable housing requirements in connection with closing of unfit houses, overcrowding, and to meet the local demand for small houses, I beg to submit the following information.

(a) CLEARANCE AREAS AND INDIVIDUAL UNFIT HOUSES.

(i.) For the confirmed area, Alma Road, twenty-nine houses are required.

(ii.) A survey has been made with the result that it is possible within the next few years that other areas and dwellings may have to be dealt with involving the provision at the most of fifty-four new houses. This is the maximum, and would be reduced if the owners replaced some of the houses, or if larger houses than two-bedroom houses were provided by the Council.

The number of persons to be displaced by confirmed or possible action under the Housing Act is :—

From the Alma Road area (a confirmed area) 117 persons

Possible Clearance Acts would displace—

Area (A)	..	..	..	..	12	„
„ (B)	..	..	..	..	36	„
„ (C)	..	..	..	..	51	„
„ (D)	..	..	..	..	9	„

Possible action dealing with individual unfit houses would displace—

11 houses in area recently added to Borough	45 persons
4 other houses	17 ..
Unfit basements let separately as dwellings—	
About 23	46 ..
	—
	333 ..
	—

If two-bedroom houses are proposed, and having regard to the standard laid down in Section 136 (b) of the Housing Act, 1936, "shall treat a house containing two bedrooms as providing accommodation for four persons," the housing requirements are :—

For confirmed area ..	29 houses
For possible requirements ..	54 ..
	—
Total	83 ..
	—

This number would be reduced in proportion to the number of three-bedroom or larger houses erected.

(b) OVERCROWDING.

Including eight families which have become "overcrowded" during 1938 by reason of a child or children reaching the age of ten years or one year as the case may be, and allowing for the families which have become decrowded during the year, the number and sizes of the overcrowded families are as follows :—

<i>Size of Families.</i>				<i>Re-housing Requirements.</i>
14 families of 1 person	..			—
4 .. 2 ..	..			—
10 .. 3 ..	..			Two-bedroom houses.
16 .. 4 ..	..			" "
8 .. 5 ..	..			Three-bedroom houses.
9 .. 6 ..	..			" "
16 .. 7 ..	..			Four-bedroom houses.
19 .. 8 ..	..			" "

<i>Size of Families.</i>		<i>Re-housing Requirements.</i>	
20 families of 9	„	..	Larger houses.
15	„	10	„
4	„	11	„
1	„	12	„
1	„	13	„

In accordance with the standard laid down in Section 136 of the Housing Act, 1936, and as extended in Circular 1539 of 7th May, 1936, the requirements to abate overcrowding, omitting the one and two-person families, are :—

26 two-bedroom houses.
 17 three-bedroom houses.
 35 four-bedroom houses.
 41 larger houses.

Total 119 houses.

This 119 is the maximum that would be required to abate overcrowding and is larger than actually would be necessary. As mentioned in my last Annual Report, if the tenants of the existing houses could be re-arranged so that the larger families were put into the larger houses, there would be practically no houses necessary to abate overcrowding.

(c) APPLICATIONS FOR HOUSES.

At the beginning of November, 1938, there were 640 applicants on the waiting list for houses, and in order to ascertain the true position with regard to these applicants, a questionnaire was, in November, 1938, sent to each one, with the following result :—

Applicants who could not be traced	..	221
Questionnaires not yet returned	..	169
Questionnaires returned	..	250
		640

The circumstances of the 250 applicants who have returned the questionnaires have been summarised and the following is the position with regard to accommodation and the rents at present being paid :—

SUMMARY OF QUESTIONNAIRES RETURNED.

Applicants at present each occupying a house—

Having seven children	..	..	1	
Having six children	..	..	5	
Having five children	..	..	3	
Having four children	..	..	10	
Having three children	..	..	10	
Having two children	..	..	32	
Having one child	..	..	31	
Having no child	..	..	14	
			—	106

Applicants occupying five rooms—

Having three children	..	..	1	
			—	1

Applicants occupying four rooms—

Having three children	..	..	2	
Having one child	..	..	4	
Having no child	..	..	2	
			—	8

Applicants occupying three rooms—

Having four children	..	..	4	
Having three children	..	..	13	
Having two children	..	..	18	
Having one child	..	..	33	
Having no child	..	..	13	
			—	81

Applicants occupying two rooms—

Having three children	..	..	4	
Having two children	..	..	9	
Having one child	..	..	23	
Having no child	..	..	11	
			—	47

Applicants occupying one room—

Having three children	..	..	1
Having two children	..	..	1
Having one child	..	..	5
		—	7
			—
		Total	250
			—

It will be noted from the above that there are 144 applicants occupying rooms, and from the details shown in a few cases, overcrowded, but the overcrowded cases are included under the previous heading (*b*) Overcrowding.

These figures must not be taken as absolute, as there may be more returns from people who have not yet, as required, sent in the details, and in many of the cases untraced, applicants have no doubt moved to other rooms and will in due course renew their applications.

RENTS.

The rents being paid by the foregoing applicants are as follows :—

Applicants occupying Houses.

1	..	32s. 6d.	1	..	15s. 11d.
1	..	30s.	1	..	15s. 10d.
3	..	27s. 6d.	1	..	15s. 8d.
3	..	26s.	1	..	15s. 3d.
1	..	25s. 6d.	1	..	15s. and rates.
1	..	25s. 3d.	6	..	15s.
1	..	25s. and rates.	1	..	14s. 10d.
14	..	25s.	1	..	14s. 3d. and rates.
1	..	24s.	1	..	14s. and rates.
1	..	23s.	1	..	14s.
1	..	22s. 10d.	1	..	13s. 4d.
1	..	22s. 8d. and rates.	1	..	13s.
1	..	22s. 6d. and rates.	2	..	12s. 6d.
3	..	22s. 6d.	1	..	11s. 8d.
2	..	22s.	1	..	11s. 6d.
1	..	21s. 9d.	1	..	11s. 3d.
2	..	21s. 6d.	1	..	11s. 2d.

3	..	21s.	1	..	11s. and rates.
1	..	20s. 7d. and rates.	2	..	11s.
2	..	20s. and rates.	1	..	10s. 7d. and rates.
5	..	20s.	1	..	10s. 6d. and rates.
1	..	19s. 6d.	1	..	10s. 6d.
1	..	18s. 9d.	1	..	10s. 2d.
1	..	18s. 6d.	1	..	10s.
1	..	18s. and rates.	2	..	9s. 6d.
4	..	18s.	1	..	9s. 4d.
1	..	17s. 6d. and rates.	1	..	9s. 2d. and rates.
1	..	17s. 6d.	1	..	9s. 2d.
2	..	17s.	1	..	8s. 3d.
1	..	16s. 11d.	1	..	8s. 2d. and rates.
1	..	16s. 9d.	1	..	7s. 8d.
1	..	16s. 6d.	1	..	6s. 9d.
1	..	16s. and rates.	1	..	No information.

Applicants occupying Five Rooms. :

1 .. 20s.

Four Rooms.

2	..	20s.	1	..	16s.	1	..	12s. 6d.
1	..	18s. 6d.	2	..	15s.	1	..	11s. 3d.

Three Rooms.

1	..	21s. 7d.	2	..	17s.	1	..	11s. 6d.
3	..	20s.	5	..	16s. 6d.	1	..	11s. 3d.
1	..	19s. 6d.	6	..	16s.	3	..	11s.
1	..	19s. 3d.	1	..	15s. 3d.	1	..	10s. 7d.
1	..	18s. 9d.	10	..	15s.	3	..	10s. 6d.
1	..	18s. 7d.	3	..	14s.	3	..	10s.
4	..	18s. 6d.	11	..	13s.	1	..	8s. 6d.
4	..	18s.	4	..	12s. 6d.	1	..	6s. 2d.
2	..	17s. 6d.	5	..	12s.	2	..	no information.

Two Rooms.

2	..	18s. 6d.	9	..	15s.	6	..	10s.
1	..	18s.	3	..	14s.	3	..	8s. 6d.
1	..	17s. 6d.	1	..	13s. 6d.	1	..	8s.
3	..	17s.	6	..	12s. 6d.	1	..	6s. 7d.
2	..	16s.	4	..	12s.	1	..	6s. 2d.
1	..	15s. 6d.	1	..	11s. 6d.	1	..	6s.

One Room.

1	..	15s.	1	..	10s.	1	..	6s. 6d.
2	..	12s. 6d.	1	..	9s.	1	no	information.

The present position as to houses required is therefore :—

For clearance areas—

Actual	..	..	..	29
Possible in future	..	..	..	54

For overcrowding—

Maximum	..	..	..	119
---------	----	----	----	-----

For general applicants 144

This latter number may be increased, and beyond these figures some of the 106 families already occupying a house need help owing to the high rents.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. G. WILLOUGHBY,

Medical Officer of Health.

HABITABLE HEREDITAMENTS.

Mr. J. R. Toovey, B.Sc., The Valuation Officer, has sent to me the following summary :—

Licensed premises	..	..	..	..	37
Houses, including boarding houses, houses					
over shops and over workshops	..				13,203
Flats	..	..	..	..	2,522
Hotels (licensed and unlicensed)	..	..			44
Schools (with living accommodation)	..				46
Total number of habitable hereditaments					
(as at 14.4.39)	..	..	..	..	15,852

The comparatively large number of Council Houses, and the building of small houses privately to let to Council applicants has had marked effect in the reduction of the number of applicants with large families whose cases were serious. There is also now a substantial reduction in the number on the list of applicants.

OCCUPATION CERTIFICATES.

Certificates of occupation for new houses have been issued in the last thirty-two years as under :—

Eight years, 1907–1914 incl.	Average 102 per annum.
Five years, 1915–1919 incl.	Average 15 per annum.
Five years, 1920–1924 incl.	Average 105 per annum.
Five years, 1925–1929 incl.	Average 312 per annum.
Five years, 1930–1934 incl.	Average 206 per annum.
1935	233
1936	275
1937	344
1938	272

In the completed houses provided by the Council, the rents were as follows :—

<i>Parlour Houses—</i>	£	s.	d.	
4 bedrooms ..	6 at 1	4	3	per week.
3 bedrooms ..	121 at 0	17	2	„
	88 at 1	1	3	„
	6 at 1	1	0	„
	120 at 0	17	5	„
	20 at 0	17	7	„

Non-Parlour Houses—

3 bedrooms ..	103 at 0	13	9	„
	327 at 0	14	9	„
	72 at 0	14	11	„
2 bedrooms ..	144 at 0	11	7	„
<i>Flats</i>	28 at 0	12	2	„

FITNESS OF HOUSES.

The general standard of housing is good ; repairs are carried out and houses kept up to a habitable condition through inspection which, under the Housing Acts, is thorough. In most houses minor items of disrepair only are found. Sanitary defects are drawn attention to in the preliminary informal notices and usually are remedied by the owners without formal action being necessary.

These sanitary defects usually take the form of dampness to walls, floors, etc., and, in the older houses, darkness of

rooms and stairs and lack of ventilation. The dampness of some of the older houses in the "Marsh" district, due to proximity of the floors to the ground water, is difficult to remedy. This does not occur in houses built under the existing byelaws as to floor levels.

The sub-division of houses is often unsatisfactory for rooms are used as separate dwellings which were never intended for that purpose.

The following is the progress report on Ministry Form H.256.

H.256.

HOUSING ACT, 1936.

QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT.

Position at 31st December, 1938.

Action taken under the Housing Act, 1930, and the corresponding Provisions in the Housing Act, 1936:

	No. of dwelling houses demolished		No. of persons displaced up to 31st Dec. 1938.	No. of dwelling houses made fit.
	Unfit houses.	Other houses.		
Part A—				
Clearance Areas—				
(i.) Land coloured pink	61	—	212	—
(ii.) Land coloured grey	—	—	—	—

PART C.

Insanitary houses not included in clearance areas or improvement areas :—

- | | |
|--|---|
| (1) Number of dwelling houses demolished as a result of formal procedure under Section 11 | 6 |
| (2) Number of dwelling houses demolished as a result of informal notices preliminary to formal procedure under Section 11 | 1 |
| (3) Number of dwelling houses closed but not demolished as a result of undertakings (which have not been cancelled) by owners under Section 11 not to use the houses for human habitation .. | 3 |

(4) Parts of Buildings closed (Section 12)	..	..	52
(5) Number of persons displaced as a result of action :			
Under (1) above	..	..	31
Under (2) above	..	..	—
Under (3) above	..	..	15
Under (4) above	..	..	98
(6) Number of dwelling houses made fit :			
(1) as a result of formal notices under Sections			
9 to 12..	..	..	65
(2) as a result of informal notices preliminary			
to formal procedure under Sections 9 to 12—1228			

This report is not confined to one quarter of the year but is a progress report showing details of all action taken under Parts II. and III. of the Housing Act, 1936, and the corresponding provisions of the Housing Act, 1930, now repealed.

HOUSING CONSOLIDATED REGULATIONS, 1925 AND 1932.

During 1938, 260 houses were examined in this connection, the total number so inspected to date being 4,103.

BLIND PERSONS.

Under the Blind Persons Act, 1920, there is a Statutory Committee to administer its provisions. This Committee includes nine members of the Council and four co-opted members, one being the Hon. Secretary of the Voluntary Society for the Blind.

The welfare of blind persons in Eastbourne is looked after by two organisations, viz., the Statutory Committee and the Voluntary Society. These two are in close touch and some of the members are on both bodies. The dividing line of the activity of these two bodies is that separating statutory duties and various social amenities. A Sub-Committee of the Statutory Committee considers all cases for financial assistance, both of the blind and their dependants.

The Statutory Committee has a paid half-time visitor, who is a qualified teacher of Braille and of pastime and other occupations for the blind. Mrs. D. Leach was appointed half-time visitor on 1st June, 1929, and visits all cases requiring visits and gives instruction and also makes the necessary investigations for the registration of the blind persons. In addition to this, on behalf of the Voluntary Society, she assists blind persons by writing letters, reading, taking them for walks and finding suitable accommodation for them. The Committee also has a duly appointed Consultant Ophthalmic Specialist, Mr. E. V. Oulton.

Of the 84 blind persons on the register at the end of 1937, seven have died and five have left Eastbourne, leaving 72 on the register.

Eleven persons were added to the register, three of whom died, bringing the total at the end of 1938 to 80, as follows :—

Age Group.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Under 5 years	1	—	1
Between 5 and 15	—	—	—
Between 15 and 30	4	—	4
Between 30 and 50	10	5	15
Between 50 and 70	13	18	31
70 years and upwards	5	24	29
Totals	33	47	80

The case under five years of age is that of an illegitimate child of four years of age, who is also mentally defective, and is in an Institution.

Of the 80 blind persons, about one-third are totally blind, the remainder having a varying amount of sight, in all cases insufficient to enable the persons concerned to earn a livelihood.

The present conditions as to occupations are :—

- (a) Children under school age (in Institution) .. 1
- (b) Other children of school age —
- (c) Persons receiving home instruction in pulp
cane work, etc. 21

Two blind persons are permanently employed in a Workshop for the Blind, one is in an Institutional Home for the Blind, three are in Mental Institutions and seven are in the Local Public Assistance Institution.

During 1938 materials for basket and rug making and chair-caning were supplied to such cases as were requiring them, numbering 20, in connection with the instruction given by the Home Teacher.

The Council's scheme under the Local Government Act, 1930, provided that domiciliary assistance of blind persons should be given by the Blind Persons Act Committee and not through the Public Assistance Committee. With regard

to the dependants of blind persons, the Blind Persons Act Committee has dealt with dependants requiring relief since 1st April, 1938.

This domiciliary assistance to the blind was commenced on 13th September, 1930. During 1938 weekly allowances have been paid to 37 cases, the amount expended being £871. 7s. 0d.

There are two blind men on the "Home Workers" Scheme of the National Society.

The voluntary Society undertakes individual social visiting and entertainments have been given. It is influential and active. To each blind person a special visitor is appointed, if the person wishes, and this visitor is responsible for reports to the society.

The report of the Voluntary Society shows an expenditure for the year ending March, 1939, of £228. 7s. 2d. Expenses are very small (under 5 per cent.) thanks to energetic personal work. These expenses are postages, printing, etc.

The voluntary Society arranges for a club, drives, Christmas gifts, some teaching and general supervision and assistance. It pays the Statutory Committee's half-time Home Visitor ten shillings weekly for her aid to the society.

At the Free Library a weekly Braille newspaper is provided. The Council makes a grant to the National Lending Library for the Blind in London, and it has been found more convenient to change books direct. There are 14 blind readers at present taking advantage of these books. Three Braille magazines supplied monthly and two Braille Mails supplied weekly, by the Voluntary Committee, are circulated amongst the readers.

Braille is taught by the Home Teacher and by Miss Ainsworth.

Two new pupils were taught Braille and one taught Moon by the Home Teacher during 1938, and supplied with the necessary books.

During the year the Council allowed 57 of the blind free 'bus tickets and free chair tickets for the parade.

During 1938, 21 persons received instruction in pulp cane work, raffia and straw work and knitting. Some 55 articles made by the blind were sold privately during the year, the amount realised being £4. 15s. The pastime work of the blind has greatly improved during the year. There has been a steady sale of the articles made.

The total number of visits paid by the Council's Visitor during the year was 1,014.

The Consultant, Mr. Oulton, uses the approved form in his reports on persons sent to him for examination as to blindness.

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

In all departments such as Maternity and Child Welfare and School Medical Inspection, sight receives special attention. In adults assistance is given in prevention, in occasional cases, such as advice from the Ophthalmic Consultant.

DEAFNESS AND THE DEAF AND DUMB.

Deafness and ear disease result most frequently from early illness, and some provision is made for attention to these ailments both in infancy and in later years of childhood. There is a special Ear, Nose and Throat Hospital to which the Authority subscribes. A specialist is available if required. In the School Medical Service a certain amount of prevention of deafness is attained. More complete attention to cases of measles would result in a further reduction of deafness in later years. Some of the cases are taken into hospital, but most continue to be rather lightly regarded in the homes. The school Clinic for ear diseases is described in my report as School Medical Officer.

The Deaf and Dumb.—There has been for many years in Eastbourne a voluntary organisation for the social welfare of the deaf and dumb. The Medical Officer of Health is a member of this organisation. This work has been taken over by the Chichester Diocesan Association with a local branch. Towards the “placement” in employment part of the work the Local Authority subscribes four guineas. After the receipt of the Ministry’s Circular 1337, steps were taken to compile an official register of the deaf and dumb with all particulars with a view to carrying out the suggestions in the circular as to employment. The register now contains 27 names, viz., 15 males and 12 females, in the following age groups :—

Age Groups.				Males.	Females.	Total.
Under 5	..	..	..	..	—	—
5–15	..	..	..	..	1	1
16–45	..	..	..	..	5	6
45 and upwards	..	..	..	..	9	5
					—	—
Total	..	..	..	..	15	12
					—	—

One child between the age of 5 and 15 is at a Residential School for the Deaf and Dumb.

There was a decrease of one on the Register since the end of 1937.

The subscription to the Diocesan Fund is to be largely increased in 1939.

MENTAL DEFICIENCY.

The Mental Deficiency Acts, 1913–1938, are administered by a Committee consisting of nine members of the Council and four co-opted members.

COMMITTEE.

Nov., 1937—Nov., 1938.

THE MAYOR (Mr. Alderman J. Wheeler, J.P.).

Mr. Alderman C. J. KNIGHT, C.B.E.

Mr. Councillor G. E. BASS, J.P.

Mr. Councillor S. M. CAFFYN.

Mr. Councillor H. MORGAN.

Mr. Councillor R. BARRATT TERRY (*Chairman*).

Mr. Councillor S. R. TOMSETT.

Mr. Councillor J. H. WALTON.

Mr. Councillor J. P. WALSHE.

Co-opted Members :

Miss D. CHAMBERLAIN, J.P.

Miss I. M. MILMAN.

Dr. W. E. PORTER, J.P. (*Deputy-Chairman*).

Mr. R. W. LOMAS SMITH.

At the end of 1937 there were 73 males and 71 females on the Register. During 1938, two males died (one being in an Institution and one on licence from an Institution) and one male whose licence was cancelled and who was returned to an Institution was certified as insane and removed to a Mental Hospital. One female in an Institution was certified insane and removed to a Mental Hospital, leaving 70 males and 70 females on the register.

Eight males have been added to the register during the year, three being notified by the Local Education Authority (two of whom were admitted to Institutions), three being "ascertained" (two of whom were admitted to Institutions), and two supervision cases being taken over from the East Sussex County Council on the extension of the Borough.

Seven females have been added to the Register during the year, two being notified by the Local Education Authority (one being admitted to an Institution and one under supervision), two being "ascertained" (one of whom was admitted to an Institution), and three being taken over from the East Sussex County Council on the extension of the Borough (two being in Institutions and one on licence from an Institution).

There are thus 78 males and 77 females on the register, an increase of 11 during the year.

During the year three males and four females were transferred from supervision to Institutions, and one female from an Institution to supervision. One male and one female who were on licence from Institutions were discharged from the Orders and are under supervision.

The 155 cases on the Register at the end of 1938 were being dealt with as follows :—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
In Institutions	31	28	59
On licence from Institutions ..	7	5	12
Under supervision	36	42	78
Under guardianship	3	2	5
Action not yet taken	1	—	1
	—	—	—
	78	77	155
	—	—	—

We are again much indebted to the Brighton Guardianship Society for its continuous assistance. Many of the cases released on licence from Institutions are placed under their care in good surroundings, with adequate supervision and occupation.

On April 1st, 1937, the relief of necessitous mental defectives was transferred from the Public Assistance Committee to the Mental Institutions Committee. The cases are reviewed quarterly and weekly cash allowances paid according to need. Twenty-five cases were dealt with up to the end of 1938, the sum expended being £575. 9s.

The Institutions receiving the 59 cases mentioned above are as follows :—

INSTITUTION CASES.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Stoke Park Colony, Bristol	8	6	14
Brentry Colony, Bristol	7	—	7
Rock Hall House, Bath	1	—	1
Princess Christian Farm Colony, Hildenborough	2	2	4
Mount Tabor Certified Institution, Basingstoke	—	5	5
Rampton State Institution	1	3	4
Hortham Colony, Bristol	1	1	2
Besford Court, Worcester	5	—	5
St. Teresa's, Belmont Hill, Lewisham ..	—	8	8
Dungates, Horam	1	—	1
St. Mary's Home, Alton	—	1	1
Tubwell Farm, Jarvis Brook	1	—	1
Lewes P.A. Institution	2	—	2
Ellen Terry National Homes, Reigate	1	—	1
Barvin Park, near Potters Bar	1	—	1
Eltoe House, Leyton	—	1	1
Cuckfield, P.A. Institution	—	1	1
	—	—	—
	31	28	59
	—	—	—

Dr. Fenton was the Certifying Officer during 1938. The Inspectors for Eastbourne under the Mental Deficiency Acts are Mr. H. T. Hounsom, Senior Officer in the Public Health Department, and Miss R. Clark, Superintendent Health Visitor.

It will be noted that the numbers increased again in 1938 by 7 per cent. This increase is common to the whole of the country and is a serious problem, both as regards the future of the race and financially. In Eastbourne the increase was from 144 to 155. The patients ascertained are young, and naturally there is so far very little diminution by death, while more cases are discovered.

In the absence of local accommodation, it will be seen from the above that the 59 Institution cases are scattered

over 17 homes. This has its advantages and is the most economical method of dealing with Institution cases at present.

MENTAL DISEASES.

The Clinic at the General Hospital under the care of Dr. B. Reid has been in regular work during 1938. It is part of a joint East Sussex Scheme, and the County Borough of Eastbourne is one of the contributing authorities concerned.

The Clinic is held on Mondays at 2 p.m.

I submit the following report by Dr. Reid :—

EAST SUSSEX CLINICS FOR NERVOUS DISORDERS.

Forty-eight Sessions of this Clinic have been held during the year at the Princess Alice Hospital, Eastbourne, on each Monday at 2 p.m., under the direction of Dr. B. Reid, Medical Superintendent of the County Mental Hospital, Hellingly.

The number of attendances for the year were as follows :

<i>New</i> Patients	..	..	..	..	..	66
Attendances of <i>Old</i> Patients	..	..	..	..	..	208
						—
Total number of attendances	..	..	..	..	..	274
						—

Patients have come from the following sources :

Cases "on trial" from Hellingly Mental Hospital	..	2
Cases sent by Patient's Doctor	..	58
Cases sent by Medical Officers of Health	..	3
Cases sent by other sources	..	3
		—
Total	..	66
		—

Present position of New Patients :

Left Hellingly Mental Hospital after treatment and keeping well	..	1
Relapsed and re-admitted under Certificate	..	1
Admitted Hellingly Mental Hospital as Voluntary Patients	..	2

Admitted Haywards Heath Mental Hospital.. ..	1
Advised to enter a Mental Hospital	11
Mental Defectives	4
Died	1
Removed from area	7
Attended for examination and advice only	14
Patients sent for convalescence and recovered patients	16
Still attending Clinic for Treatment	8

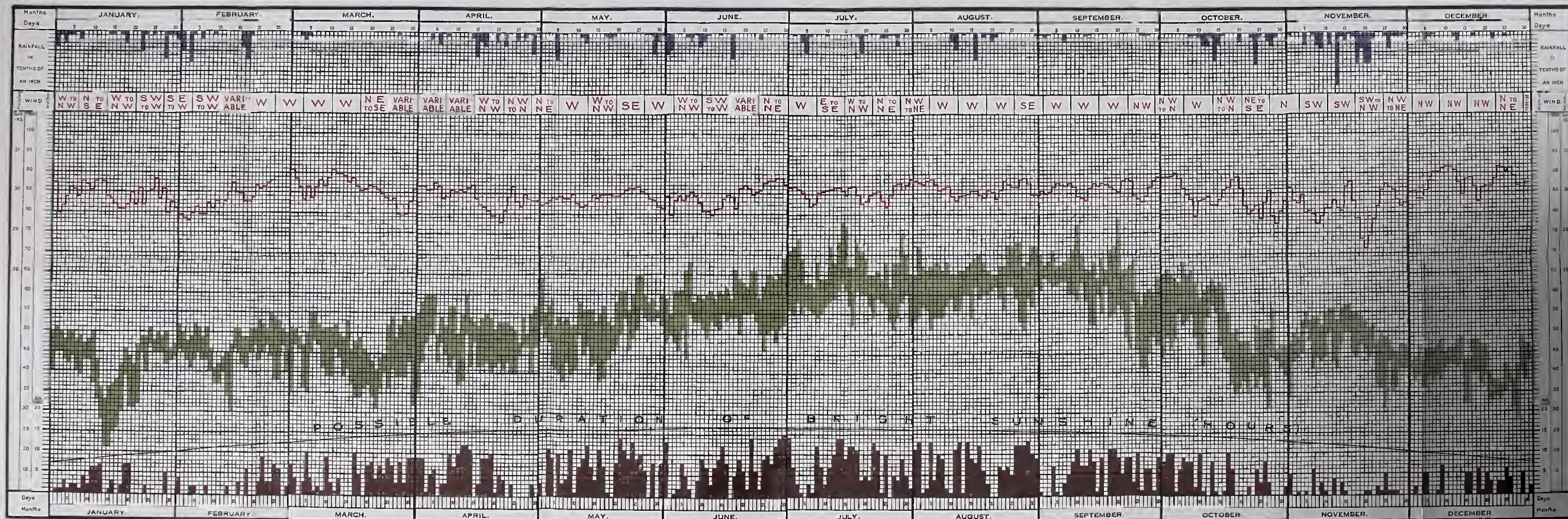
During the year two patients were sent to Convalescent Homes for a period, returning very much improved by the rest and change. Six children were sent for examination—three of them being cases of nervous disorder—two mental defect and one epileptic.

Miss Milman continues her kind voluntary visits to ex-patients. There is also a visitor in connection with the Clinic.



County Borough of Eastbourne.

Chart shewing the principal Meteorological Conditions during each day of the year 1926.



RAINFALL.
EACH SQUARE EQUALS ONE-TENTH OF AN INCH.

BAROMETRIC PRESSURE (reduced to 32° F. and Sea Level).

TEMPERATURE.
EACH SQUARE EQUALS ONE DEGREE.

SUNSHINE.
EACH SQUARE EQUALS ONE HOUR.

V. V. SUMFIELD, LITHO. EASTBOURNE.

Compiled by:
A. H. HOOKHAM,
Meteorological Observer,
Public Health Department,
Town Hall, Eastbourne.

